

# KEEP STRONG

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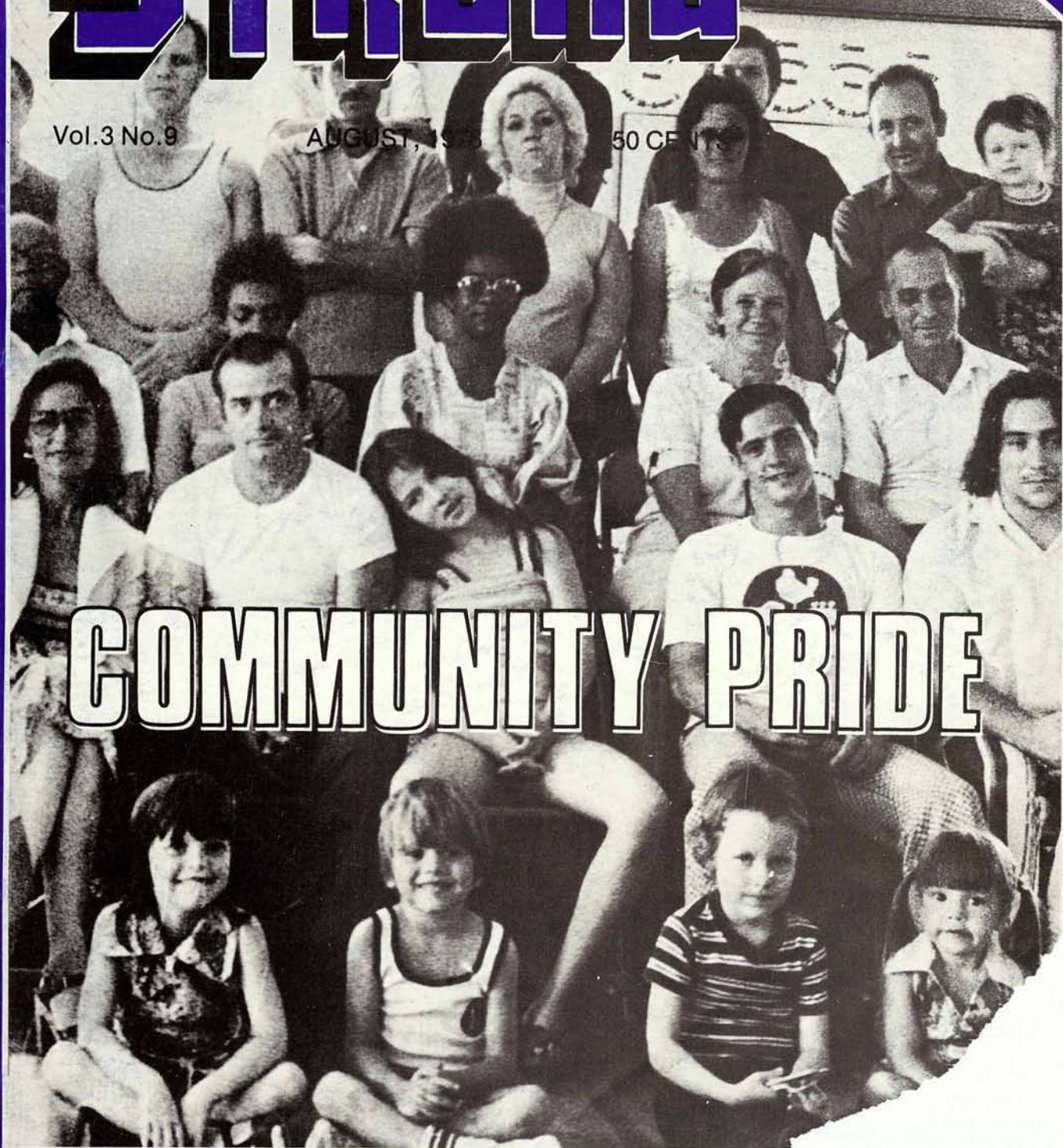
Battle  
For Uptown  
Part II

Vol.3 No.9

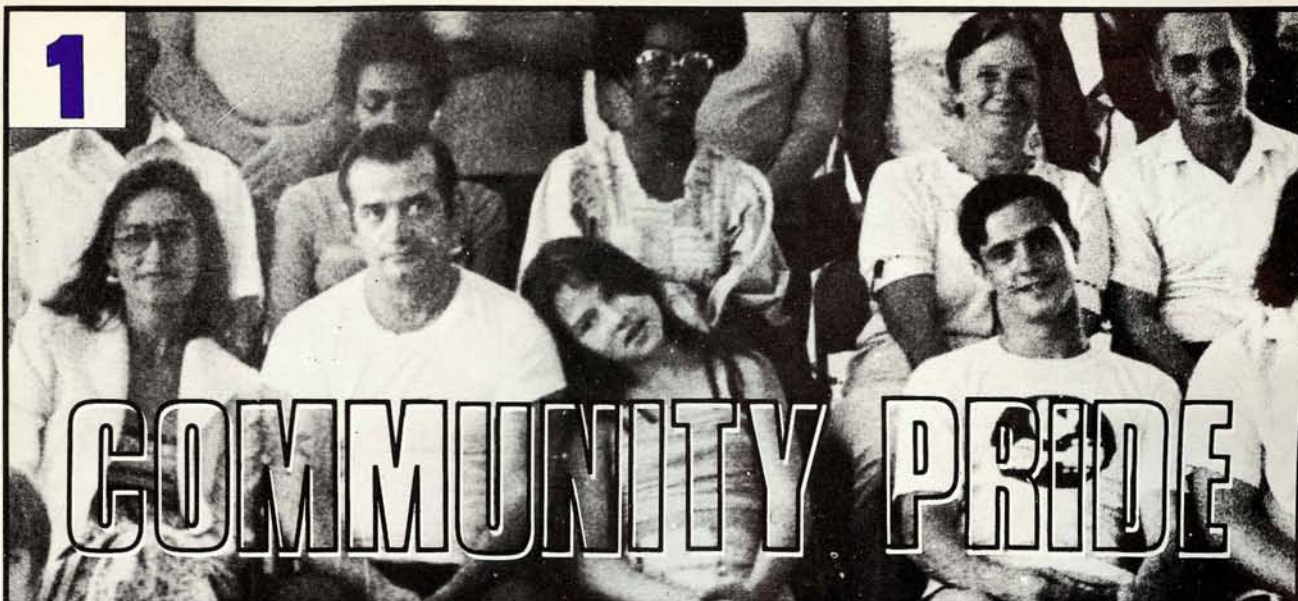
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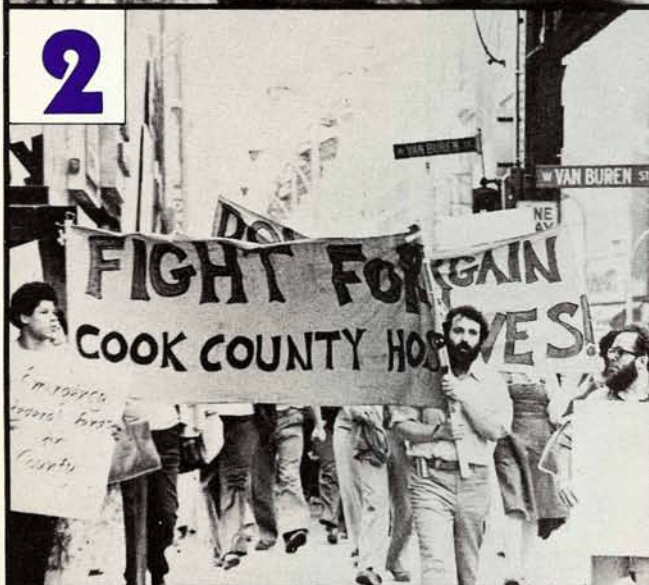
## COMMUNITY PRIDE



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## ***In This Issue***

1. Popular Uptown community leader Helen Shiller calls for Community Pride Week. See page 28 and "Comment," page 3.
2. "Who Will Make Health Care A Human Right?" is a question being raised at the community, city-wide and national level. See page 37.
3. Does Carter's new move towards a renewed Cold War really mean war in Africa? See page 54.
4. In the second part of the "Battle For Uptown" series, KEEP STRONG discusses community pride, tenant struggles and a new approach to the housing problems of the area. See page 28.
5. On her way to becoming a new state representative, people's candidate Carol Moseley Braun discusses the issues. See page 44.

## TAKING US BACK TO THE FIFTIES?

It seems that "somebody up there" is trying to take us back to the fifties and pretend that the sixties and early seventies never happened.

At the movies, there is Travolta and Olivia Newton-John combing their hair and singing hokey songs and telling us that "grease can be fun." Carter is whipping up the Cold War and telling us that "the Russians are coming." The Supreme Court, ruling for the mysterious Allen Bakke, is wiping away the gains of affirmative action and making believe that Watts and Harlem and King and Fred Hampton and Malcolm X never happened, causing those gains to be made in the first place. Proposition 13 plans to bring taxes back down to where they were 20 years ago as if this country had enough jobs to support the survival of its growing population. And we are getting all fired up to fight for human rights and "freedom" in Africa just the way we did in Vietnam.

The sixties, with all its violence and demonstrations and resistance, happened because the fifties weren't that good. But they weren't half bad compared to what is happening in the seventies. In the fifties this country had just come out the winner

in a war where it was the only major power not to have had to fight on its own territory. Shrewd generals, politicians and businessmen made us the number one economic power in the world. We profited from everybody else's weakness. There were problems. Racism maintained its vicious hold on this country. Many were denied health care and jobs and decent education. But many had good paying jobs.

How different are the seventies. The U.S. is now only one among many economic powers. Nations everywhere have claimed self-determination and their fair share in the wealth. So the inequalities at home have come to roost. We face massive unemployment, cutbacks in survival services and high prices. It is hard times.

So it seems that Carter and the boys have decided to pretend that it is the 1950's. But Mr. Carter, the sixties followed the fifties. And if you try to make believe the seventies are the fifties, then you had better truly look out for the eighties. There is only so much the people will stand. □

# COMMENT

## COMMUNITY PRIDE



"The responsibility, the pride, belongs on us."

*Everything, everybody, every community has both an inside and an outside. You can smash a glass with a rock, and it will break. But if the glass has a crack, or several cracks, in it, then you only have to give a quiet tap to break the glass to pieces.*

*Our communities are cracking. In fact, the cracks are spreading. And just as with*

*a glass, a small crack quickly grows into a larger crack if it is not mended.*

*The city power structure, the men downtown, set the terms of our communities' self-destruction. It begins the cracks. But it is we ourselves who make the cracks grow.*

*It is the city that stops picking up the*

garbage and cleaning the streets of our communities. They neglect our communities on purpose. But it is we ourselves who just give up and throw both garbage and self-respect all over the place.

It is the drug companies that produce three times as many amphetamines and barbiturates as could possibly be needed for medical use, but is people from our communities who sell them to youth of our communities, making them empty-headed, weak-bodied, foolish and laughingstocks for the world.

It is the big corporations who are responsible for there not being enough jobs to go around and the government big shots who cut back on welfare monies, but it is people from our own communities, even from our own families, who steal from other poor and working people and make senior citizens afraid to walk outside in our neighborhoods.

It is the slumlords who do not fix up the buildings while they make thousands of dollars every month, but we are the ones who break windows and write disrespectful obscenities on the walls of buildings the children of our community must be raised in.

The machine makes precinct captains of heroin dealers and gives its protection to the doctors who sell drugs, but we allow them to operate and to walk the streets of our communities destroying the futures of our young people.

Let's speak frankly about ourselves and face the hard facts. When the powers that be plan to destroy a community, they write it off. No jobs, run-down housing, no city services, protection for the dealers, tear our people apart. Families that had pride slowly begin to "give in and give up." Haven't you seen it? Families that five years ago fought to keep their children from becoming addicts and pill freaks,

allow them to get off right in the house. Without jobs they turn to alcohol, and they fight and fight and fight — with each other. The home becomes a war zone where anything goes.

There are a lot of people with a lot of pride still holding on. But they watch their neighbors going under, and they do nothing and say nothing. They are just as guilty.

In poor and working communities in every city of this country the cracks are spreading. And our own people are spreading them. Soon they will not need bulldozers to wipe us out. A gentle tap will shatter us.

Community pride is the sum of the self-respect of every person in the community. But there are forces constantly tearing down our pride. Community pride takes a movement, and it takes some community action.

There are some brothers who say they are willing to die to protect their turf. They say they run their blocks. But what do you run if you let dope dealers sell poison to your younger brothers and sisters? What are you protecting when people can come and throw garbage and beer cans and wine bottles down on your street?

It is time for men to be men and women to be women. For fathers to be fathers and mothers to be mothers. It is time to be proud.

The blame belongs on the city, on the drug companies, on the politicians, on the slumlords, on the police, on the banks.....

**BUT THE RESPONSIBILITY, THE PRIDE, BELONGS ON US.□**

**Slim Coleman**

# ON THE STREET

**"WHAT DOES COMMUNITY PRIDE MEAN TO YOU?"**

**Geraldine Hornbuckle**  
N. Kenmore

"Community pride to me is keeping the front of your building clean, helping the people around you to keep the place clean, and also keeping the drunks from falling all over the place and sleeping in your hallways. It's not being drunk out in public and having everybody disrespect you in public. That's what I think community pride is."



**Jim Litzau**  
N. Magnolia

"What does community pride mean to me? It means where everybody works together, tries to keep up the neighborhood, keep it clean, tries to keep the dope pushers out and tries to get these gangs to work together instead of fighting and killing each other. What more could I say?"

**Bill French**  
N. Kenmore

"Community pride to me is involvement of the people in the community to show their respect for themselves and for the community; to get all the dope and marijuana and glue away from the teenagers; involvement in the neighborhood to keep the neighborhood clean; each individual building keeping their lot, sidewalks, parts of the streets clean; people working together to accomplish something that the city has actually been knocking out."



**Valerio Asperin**  
N. Kenmore

"To me community pride is the improvement of the Kenmore Club, and while doing this, it is essential and very necessary to make a good approach over the raising of our children especially. And to make a good approach to the parents and cooperation. The children must not be allowed to run around at night time, to make noise, make disturbances where the tenants are sleeping, so they can go to work early in the morning. By doing this, I think we are giving our children the good moral, the good standing as future citizens."

Spencer Green  
N. Clifton



"I think that community pride means to me realizing what you have and realizing that's all you have, and you have to take care of it. It's not just all the writing on the walls and breaking glass. Those are things you can think about and do something about. But conditions of buildings, maybe that's a little far, right now. But just to begin with, it means realizing that this is your neighborhood and treating it like your own."



Rosemary McGinn  
N. Magnolia

"Well, it means a lot of improvement in the Uptown area since Community Pride Week is starting. A lot of teenagers have pitched in and done their share, and I think it's great."

Ernest Lockhart  
W. Grace



"I don't live in the neighborhood any more, but I'm still concerned about it, because I got people that live here. Even if I didn't have no people live here, I'd still be concerned about it, because I love this neighborhood. I tell you what I think needs to be done to improve it. People need to take more interest in their kids than what they do — try to do all they can to keep them out of the streets and keep them away from bad company as much as they can. But you know that's going to be hard to do. It can be done all right, but it's going to take some pressure."



Everett Workman  
W. Buena

"We need someone to clean up our dope addicts on the street. We have a lot of teenagers and children on the street that don't have no minds at all because they're all on dope. We need it cleaned up. We have murderers without a gun nowadays. They're killing the young people's minds. They're destroying the youth of our communities, and our police service is not doing a damn thing about it. We need this stopped. We need parents who will sit down and teach their kids to work and keep a strong mind. Not to get on dope and hang around and look for something to do. We need to give them a tool and a job in their hands and raise them up to be children with good sound minds, with an obligation to do something."

Gene Ronacher  
N. Magnolia



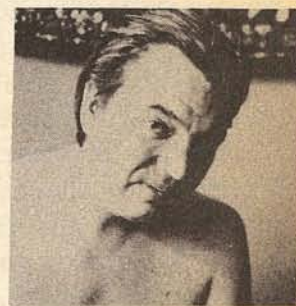
"We were talking about getting the garbage cans put out here, so people will throw their garbage in the can instead of on the street. Then we go to work on the city to get them to pick up the garbage."



**Al McSheridan**  
N. Magnolia

**"I think when somebody is out there on the street messing the street up or destroying someone else's property, then something should be done. Sure there are lots of people in this neighborhood who really care about it, but they haven't worked together yet. If you try to do it as an individual, you're out on a limb. It's going to take a majority. Then we can go and say, 'Look it here, man, we don't put up with this.'"**

**Vernon Kohel**  
N. Malden



**"One thing I find is that you don't see as many strong families any more. You can buy a life for \$10. Nobody is going to cry about that life, but they'll cry about the \$10 that was spent for it. If there was more togetherness as far as people in the neighborhood are concerned, I think they'd find more happiness in their own homes."**



**Larry Giles**  
N. Malden

**"I think pride in community means taking care of your people and the community both at the same time — and respecting both with the same amount of respect."**

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Inez Williams, director of the Uptown Community Drug Abuse Clinic, was incorrectly quoted in the article, "Proposed Drug Abuse Clinic Restrictions Criticized" (see KEEP STRONG, June-July 1978). The correct quote is as follows:

**"The only people that take methadone out of the clinic are people**

**who work, go to school and are not using illicit drugs. Everybody else has to drink the methadone here, in front of a nurse, seven days a week. We don't encourage people to stand outside the clinic and talk, but what's the difference in our clients stopping to talk to each other and the alderman's associates standing outside and talking?"**

# Welfare Rights

## Have You Ever Been Denied Emergency Food Stamps?

(Chicago, Ill.) In December 1976 Henry Paul was denied emergency food stamps because he had no birth certificate. In August 1977 Carol and Ed Herndon and their family were denied food stamps because Mr. Herndon could not produce proof of employment. In September 1977 the Justus family was denied emergency food stamps because they lacked the necessary documents to get them. These particular cases of people being denied emergency food stamps were reported in KEEP STRONG. Thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands of such cases around the country were never reported anywhere. Instead, the families involved quietly struggled to get by, borrowing from friends and family, stretching the little food they had as far as it would go.

One person denied the emergency assistance, Carl Aiken, decided the denial was wrong, and it was worth a fight. He fought all the way to Federal District Court in California. As a result of the case, relief — in the form of back food stamps — is now possible.

Aiken vs. Obledo, as the case is legally known, applies to people denied emergency food stamps between August 5, 1974 and December 31, 1977. Emergency food stamps are provided at no cost to the recipient. The

Aiken vs. Obledo decision made it illegal for food stamp offices to deny the stamps to applicants who had no proof of citizenship, employment, income, rent paid or the like. Likewise, the court ruled that food stamp offices could not deny the stamps because a person had already received emergency aid in the last six months. People who were turned down for the emergency food stamps for these reasons are now eligible to receive those stamps, though a special application will have to be filed at a local food stamp office. People who did receive food stamps, but who had to wait for over a month to get them because it took the food stamp office that long to verify the facts, are also eligible for the back food stamps.

Others who might be eligible for back stamps are those who never completed the original process because they were discouraged by caseworkers who led them to believe they had no chance of getting the emergency stamps. Some people in this category may have only asked questions about food stamps, but they, too, are eligible. The bottom line is whether or not the person's income and expenses at the time justified getting the free food stamps.

For those who did not actually complete the food stamp application process during the 1974-1977 time period, records may not be on hand in the local food stamp offices. If this is the case, the burden of proof will be on the applicant. Now, because of the time gone by, it will be even more difficult to come up with those important pieces of paper — a birth certificate, wage stub, utility receipts, social security statement, etc. When these documents are not available, applicants will be able to sign a sworn affidavit, stating that the



information they have provided on the special Aiken vs. Obledo application is true.

It is too early to tell to what extent local welfare departments are complying with the

court order in the Aiken vs. Obledo case. Those who believe they are eligible should apply at their local food stamp offices.

Carl Aiken fought his case to the end. Now it's up to the

thousands of people like Henry Paul, the Justus family and Carol and Ed Herndon to fight for their rights as well as make the Department of Agriculture pay for its lack of concern for people in need. □

# Tenants' Rights

## 4546 N. Magnolia: A Familiar Uptown Pattern

(Chicago, Ill.) In the first part of June, as the fire ripped through the top floor of the building at 4546 N. Magnolia, in the early morning hours, clouds of gray smoke pushed the tenants onto the street, and a familiar Uptown pattern revealed itself again.

The building had had a similar fire a few months before. The damage had been covered with a

few sheets of wall paneling.

Tenants report that security in the building had become lax in the last months. "There hasn't been a front door in quite a while," one man told KEEP STRONG, and necessary repairs were slow in coming or nonexistent.

The building is operated by John C. Bowers Management

Company. Bowers, for years a board member of the Uptown National Bank, has, in recent years, fallen from grace with the majority of the bank's directors. He held the contract to manage the bank's property at Lawrence and Broadway. But it appears that Uptown National is going through some changes. New blood, new money and new plans for the structure at Lawrence and Broadway and the area around it have cost John Bowers a major portion of his management business.

Bowers was replaced on the bank's board by Leland Larsen, of Quinlan & Tyson, a major suburban real estate company that now manages the bank's building.

Investigators for the Heart of Uptown Block Club Coalition report that Bowers operated another building at 4119 N. Kenmore until it burned three years ago. "Bowers had the building emptied. Repairs were made, and painting was done. Representatives for Bowers, at the time, told community residents that the building would become senior citizen housing. The building was occupied and emptied again shortly after. It has been vacant and boarded since."

Residents of 4546 N. Magnolia, in fact, residents of the entire 4500 block, hope that the same



4546 N. Magnolia: "The land, like the lot next to it could be vacant in eight months."

thing will not happen there.

But sources familiar with the Uptown area believe that Bowers' once successful real estate business has become shaky without the support of the bank. While Bowers has promised to do major repair work in the building, these people believe that the climate of land speculation created by Truman College

around the corner, might be too sweet to pass up. "The land, like the lot next to it, could be vacant in eight months," a Block Club member stated.

In the meantime, tenants of the building think they have the right to some straight and honest answers from John C. Bowers Management Co. □

## On The Job

### Renewed Interest In Union At Pay Master

(Chicago, Ill.) In a recent interview, an employee of the Pay Master Corporation on W. Winemac Street, described the ongoing struggle with the factory to organize a union. Founded in 1918 by Ted Hershburg, the Pay Master Corporation was later passed on to his son, Ted Jr.

"When I started there 20 years ago, we had no medical plan, pension plan, didn't receive any general raises, were lacking quite a few holidays, had no sick pay and in general were expected to work without any kind of benefits.

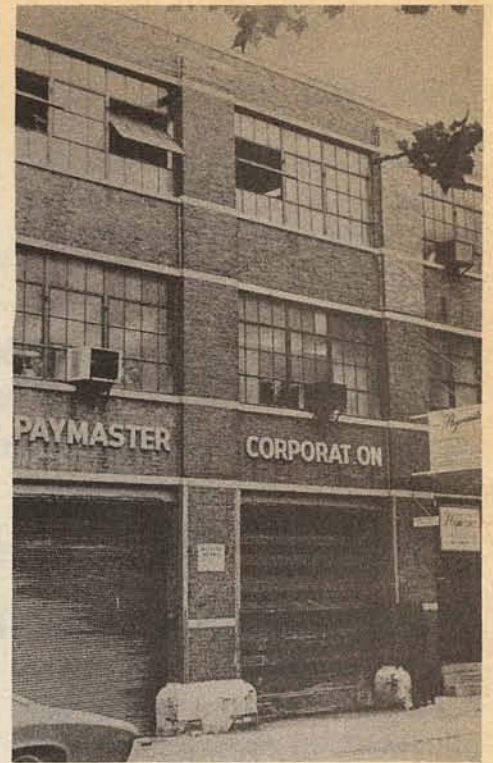
"Factory workers at the time were considered to be illiterate people that couldn't get another job, that nobody else wanted — just peons. Give them anything, and they'll be happy.

"The union made a strong impression. It was the Steel

Workers Union. We started to organize for better benefits, more money — the usual things which anybody in our society wants to have. We were met with threats and coercion. We ended up in court, and Ted Hershburg, Jr. was found guilty of coercion and not having a clean election. He received a fine — a slap on the hands.

"We held another election, but in the meantime, Ted came up with a lot of good offers and a lot of good promises. Pay Master has a lot of people that have been with the company 15 to 20 and some 40 years. They're loyal Pay Master employees. They had faith in Ted. He said he couldn't give us these things right away because it could be construed as enticement. The local employees believed that Ted would come through, and of course the election was defeated.

"He did come through with



Pay Master Corporation. Conditions for the workers have not changed much in 20 years.

general raises and got us a couple of extra holidays and straightened out a lot of things that were bad in the plant. Still, things are very much the same today as they were back then.

"The most recent development is the new A-B-C rating system they started about a year ago. To be an A employee, if you're a production operator, you've got to keep up 80% production and you can only miss six days per six months. If you miss more than that, it will go against your evaluation, and you can be dropped to a lower grade, which means less money. Absenteeism is the main thing, and very little emphasis is put on your ability as a worker. You are evaluated periodically by your foreman and the office. If you're in good with your foreman you don't have to worry. The favoritism is really bad.

"Another thing is that you've

got to pay your own insurance, and it isn't even any good. You end up paying half of your hospital bill. What's the company doing with all that money they're saving and we're paying out? When you add it all up, that's a lot of money.

"We're still not paid for sick days, and if you don't have a doctor's note it counts against your evaluation. So if you have a toe ache, you have to run to the doctor.

"People are getting tired of being lied to and appeased by the company and then losing out in the end.

"This time around it's the United Auto Workers Union that's trying to get in. The company is dead against it. They are doing everything they can to discourage it. The only time you can talk to anybody about the union is at lunch time. If they catch you discussing the union during working hours, you can be dismissed. Across from our department there's the maintenance foreman's office, and they stand across from you all day watching.

"A few weeks ago they called us all into the recreation room to hear the boss give a speech. He asked what can the union do for you. I wouldn't want to tangle with him verbally because I just couldn't keep up with him. He can be very nasty. No one would stand up to him and say anything, so the remarks were met in silence. He said the union could ask for so much, but it all depends on whether he felt like giving it.

"He said that most people in the United States were against

unions, which is possible, I don't know. But I think that the majority of people in our country are for the unions, from the coal miners right down to the ditch digger or the brick layer or the carpenter. Without them we'd never get anything, back to 12 hours a day for minimum pay. The manufacturer has got to be forced to treat the people as human beings and to share.

"We've got a lot of different kinds of people at the plant, and you can't shove them around any more. We don't want to break the company. All we want is fair

treatment, and a little representation with some authority. It's like on the side of the company you have all their lawyers, the banks, their insurance, etc. Behind the employee you have nobody. So we have to organize.

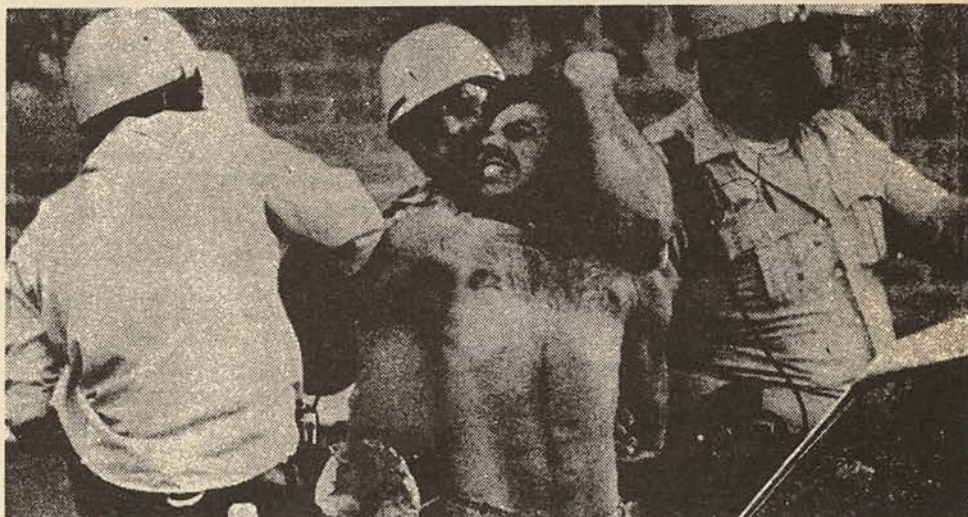
"One person alone can do nothing. Millions together can move mountains. All we want is support. We're not going to ask him for the world. If we get in now and really move, I think the union can carry the plant. People can be lied to for just so many years before they won't take any more. □

## Police Watch

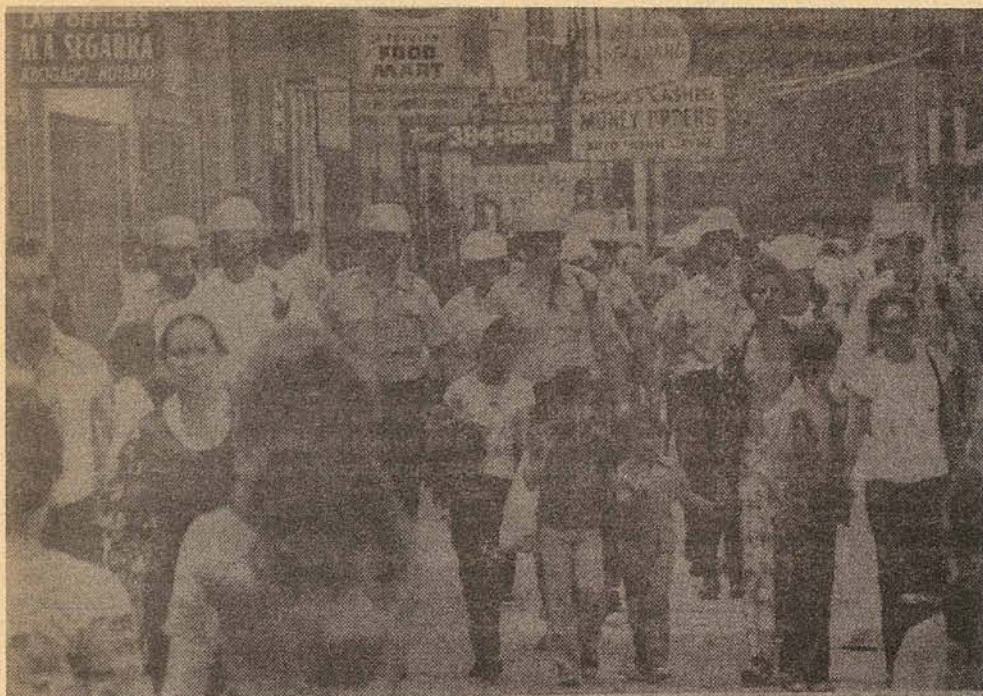
### *Brutality Conference Organizers And Baby Terrorized By Police*

(Chicago, Ill.) It was ironic that seven people including an eight-month-old baby were harassed and brutalized by Chicago police

following a Conference on Police Brutality. The conference, held June 3, was in commemoration of two young Puerto Ricans



Humboldt Park, June 4, 1977. Since that time police harassment and brutality has grown against the Puerto Rican community of West Town.



Police moving through the Humboldt Park area, June 1977.

killed June 4, 1977 by Chicago police, in what many observers called a "police riot" in Humboldt Park. That incident, which had hundreds of injuries and arrests, drew national attention to the problem of police brutality in the Latino community of West Town in Chicago.

Organizers of the conference charge that since the Humboldt Park riot, police harassment and brutality has grown "more intensively and extensively" against Puerto Ricans in West Town. The conference organizers also wanted to focus on what they claim is a growth of police brutality throughout the nation.

As Jose Lopez and others were leaving a conference-sponsored cultural event on June 3, at about 9:30 p.m., they were confronted by two plainclothes cops from the 13th District (Wood Station). The two police, Officers Scalise and Garcia, assaulted and verbally abused the conference partici-

pants. A summary of the incident by those involved and witnesses reads:

"... They first grabbed Jamie Delgado who was crossing the street walking towards Jose's car and without warning handcuffed him and threw him in their car. Then pointing their gun on Jose, Myrna and the children, they grabbed José by the wrist placing handcuffs on him, pulling him forward, slamming his rib cage against the car door.

"When Juan Rivera and his wife Juanita, who was holding their eight-month-old baby, asked the police why they were arresting José and Jamie, one of the two cops pointed his gun directly at the child and threatened to blow his head off if anyone said another word. This cop then shouted, 'I love it, I love it, I love my job, and no f---g Puerto Rican will take it away from me. Now what are you going to do without your crowd?'"

These two cops, who apparently had radioed for reinforcements, then proceeded to grab Juan Rivera by the hair, arrest him and then at gunpoint arrest his wife and baby. They then turned to Myrna who was holding her children. Myrna's mother, who was standing there, pleaded with the cops to leave her daughter and the children alone. Screaming obscenities, they told her to shut up or she would be arrested and then grabbed Myrna forcibly from her children and arrested her. When another woman, Carmen Rodriguez, protested these arrests, she was punched in the back and also arrested."

The report goes on to say, "The six people and the baby were transported to the 13th District (907 N. Wood). As they were being brought in, one of the two arresting plainclothes cops (later found out to be Scalise and Garcia) told José Lopez that he was going to beat him up so bad that he would have to spend two weeks in the intensive care unit. The arrested people were put in the Tactical Unit Office where, in the center of the bulletin board, was the poster of the Police Brutality Conference.

"The two officers (Scalise and Garcia) then began a series of the most vile and racist terrorist threats against the arrested people and their community. Among many other comments, they said they had 'killed two Puerto Ricans in Humboldt Park last year,' and that they were 'gonna kill more this year; Hitler died too soon. He would know what to do with the Puerto Ricans. We have the power. We should kill all the Puerto Rican mothers and that will end the

Puerto Rican problem.' "

In the end only Lopez was charged — with resisting arrest. In court on June 13, the charges were dismissed.

A subsequent investigation by attorneys for Lopez and the Alliance to End Repression revealed apparent involvement of high ranking police officials in the incident. It was learned that police informants had been present at the conference earlier in the day. They had turned over information to the police intelligence division, who in turn passed it along to the Deputy Superintendent of Police. The Deputy Superintendent then called the 13th and 14th police districts. Information was gained through depositions taken from various police officers, including Scalise and Garcia.

Michael Deutsch, attorney for Lopez, said, "While some may speculate, we believe those cops were supposed to disrupt, harass and brutalize people at the conference. They knew ahead of time what it was about."

Lopez, others involved in the incident, their attorneys, and a number of concerned citizens met with Cook County State's Attorney Bernard Carey on June 12 asking for:

- Dismissal of the two officers involved;
- Dismissal of charges against Lopez;
- Action about the continuing harassment of Lopez and the entire West Town community.

Observers close to the case

believe Carey had little to do with the dismissal of the charges against Lopez. The case was obviously weak to begin with. Persons attending the June 12

meeting believe Carey was vague about any commitment to dismiss the officers or to look into the issue of police brutality in West Town. □

## Criminal Justice

### Prisoners' Health Care Cut At Cermak Hospital

(Chicago, Ill.) Earlier this year, Cook County Board president George Dunne announced that \$7 million would be taken from the budget of the county Health and Hospitals Governing Commission. The announcement set in motion a countywide controversy, as community residents feared cuts in all of the facilities operated by the Governing Commission (Cook County Hospital, Fantus Clinic, Cermak Hospital and many others).

Since then, KEEP STRONG

has learned of the serious decline of services at Cermak Hospital. In 1973 Cermak Hospital was investigated for lack of medical services. Under threat of having its accreditation stripped, the hospital was placed under the authority of the Cook County Health and Hospitals Governing Commission.

Over the next several years, the hospital established a quality health care program for the jail, a program which hired former military corpsmen, commonly



Cermak Hospital at Cook County Jail. Inmates and concerned citizens are demanding that money be found to put Cermak back on its feet.

called paramedics, and utilized them throughout the hospital. Starting with five paramedics in 1973, the program grew to 45 by 1977.

The paramedics were able to maintain day to day contact with the inmates on their tiers. They were also responsible for screening inmates at sick call, enabling them to receive faster care for minor problems and giving doctors more time to spend on serious illnesses. A venereal disease testing program, which had detected, treated and cured 2,000 cases of VD in a two year period, as well as a TB testing program, were implemented by non-professional paramedics.

In addition, the paramedics performed the original medical intake interview on each new inmate, increasing the number of inmates who received medical attention upon entering the jail by 20%.

And finally, this staff was used to dispense medication to the inmates in the jail, a task which was previously assigned to the guards. The guards were not trained in detecting abuse, or its side effects, medicine disappeared in large quantities and was used to control security on the tiers.

As late as May 1977, the 100 bed hospital had a large professional staff headed by Dr. Lambert King. The staff included four full-time doctors, nine resident house staff on rotation from Cook County Hospital and 45 nurses working three shifts.

But politically-inspired budget cuts in the county health system have forced the cutting of

services and paring down of facilities. The inmates of Cook County Jail, with less clout and voice than anybody else around, are suffering the brunt of these cuts.

Only one full-time doctor remains on the staff, the number of nurses has been reduced by two-thirds. Only two of the hospital's three wings are currently open, and most new patients are being admitted only for mental health reasons. The rest are transported to Cook County Hospital. Inspection teams report it takes six weeks to have a boil removed and 13 weeks for a tooth extraction. The ambulances assigned to the

jail leave every morning carrying inmates to courts around the city and return late in the evening. But the most serious cut reported by inmates is the loss of 28 paramedics, leaving 17 to do the job that 45 had done before.

Department of Corrections officials report that 700 new guards will be hired before 1978 is over. None of these people, however, will have medical training beyond basic first-aid.

Inmates and citizens alike are demanding that money be found somewhere to put Cermak back on its feet. □

## Health News

### Abortion: One Doctor's Point Of View

*(Chicago, Ill.) The recent initiation of anti-abortion legislation throughout the country has repeated itself again and again in state after state and now most recently on the federal level. As the state of Illinois as well as the city of Chicago consider restrictions similar to those in Wisconsin, the following article by Dr. Hania Ris, reprinted from the Madison Press Connection (a Wisconsin news service), becomes relevant to any place considering restrictive abortion legislation.*

Your three recent articles on abortion dealt mainly with the emotional and moral aspects of

the issue and did not contribute to a true understanding of AB-321 and its impact on poor women in the state of Wisconsin.

As a pediatrician interested in the quality of life for all, I am especially concerned about pregnant teenagers, about children having children and the resulting physical, emotional, mental, education and social risk which it incurs to the teenage mother and her offspring.

AB-321, and its successor now being considered, AB-1272, are both highly discriminatory as they would deprive poor women, most of whom are young women



Unwanted children in a state home. Only a small proportion are ever released to agencies for adoption.

and minority women, of legal abortion care. We have a double assault on women and the poor.

Abortions, legal or illegal, will be performed no matter what the law professes, but under the proposed law low-income women would die and would be maimed.

Let me illustrate the problem for you with statistics from Wisconsin.

Here in Wisconsin, Dr. Herbert Sandmire of Green Bay reviewed 48 consecutive deaths reported by the Wisconsin Maternal Mortality Study Committee (Wisconsin Medical Journal: 71:128-129, April 1972). He found that 32 of the 48 deaths in a three-year period, 1969-71 inclusive, could have been avoided, that 32 of these women had serious, medically important reasons not to be pregnant. Five of these unnecessary deaths followed illegal abortions performed by non-physicians. These are the tragic stories that would be repeated if anti-abortion bills

are passed.

It is instructive to note that in a corresponding three year period, 1974-76 inclusive, following the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision which legalized abortion, Wisconsin's maternal mortality rate dropped precipitously, partly as a result of availability of abortions to high risk pregnant women. There were no deaths following legal or illegal abortions in the above period.

The benefits to the family and society of offering the choice of abortions to women who are at high risk of delivering a child with a severe abnormality is seldom mentioned by the anti-abortion groups. About 80 in-born errors of metabolism, in addition to chromosomal and other abnormalities, can be currently diagnosed in the second trimester of pregnancy. There are approximately 3,000 women in Wisconsin alone who annually are at risk of giving birth to a child with a very severe abnormality.

According to a survey conducted by Renata Laxova of the Department of Genetics of the University of Wisconsin, 50 per cent of those women who had access to prenatal diagnostic testing (amniocentesis) and reassurance of availability of an abortion if fetal abnormality was detected, would not have embarked on a pregnancy had these services not been available to them.

The argument by anti-abortion groups that there is always an adoptive home for an unwanted child ignores the fact that only a small proportion of unwanted out-of-wedlock children are released to agencies for adoption. In 1975 in Wisconsin, out of 6,996 reported out-of-wedlock births, only 9.9 per cent were released; in 1976 the figure was 7.9 percent. Some of the infants who are given up are never adopted because of physical and mental defect and/or racial background.

The judgmental and punitive attitude of some legislators toward poor women is revealed in a letter to me from Sen. Dale McKenna. In response to my communication to him that I could not support his candidacy for lieutenant-governor because of his support of AB-321, Sen. McKenna wrote (March 6, 1978):

*"...Those who engage in sexual activity must realize that one of the possible consequences of that activity is pregnancy. Those who are unwilling to accept the consequences of pregnancy should not engage in sexual activity."*

*"I think the issue [abortion] needs to be put in perspective by realizing that there are countless*

*thousands of parents in Wisconsin who want children and cannot have them. Therefore, a woman who has an unwanted pregnancy does not necessarily face the possibility of having to raise a child to the age of maturity. Instead, that mother has the option of giving that child to parents who want it and will care for it and will appreciate the opportunity to share the joy of parenthood. The pregnant*

*mother then faces merely the inconvenience, although granted a substantial inconvenience, of a nine month period of gestation."*

This inhumane attitude downgrades a woman to a mere incubator status. It completely ignores her feelings, her wishes, and the stress and psychological trauma that she must undergo in carrying an unwanted pregnancy to term. □

"Remember last Christmas? They caught those guys selling everybody those watches? This is just like that. I paid with good intentions. He practiced the graduation ceremony for two days — to get a piece of garbage like that. If the man (Mr. McDonald, Goudy's principal) had come to us and explained it to me, it would have been hard, but I could have taken that."

Mr. Darby's problem is not that Glenn was held back, but that Goudy School officials handled the situation in such a deceitful manner. "You can't reason with a man like that. When you go to see him [McDonald], he falls down in a corner and starts crying. Until he gets that diploma, I am not letting my boy go to public school in Chicago. When he was in school they could harass him, but now they can't hurt him."

Across the city, over 20,000 students were held back from graduation pending completion

# Education

## Phony Diploma At Goudy School

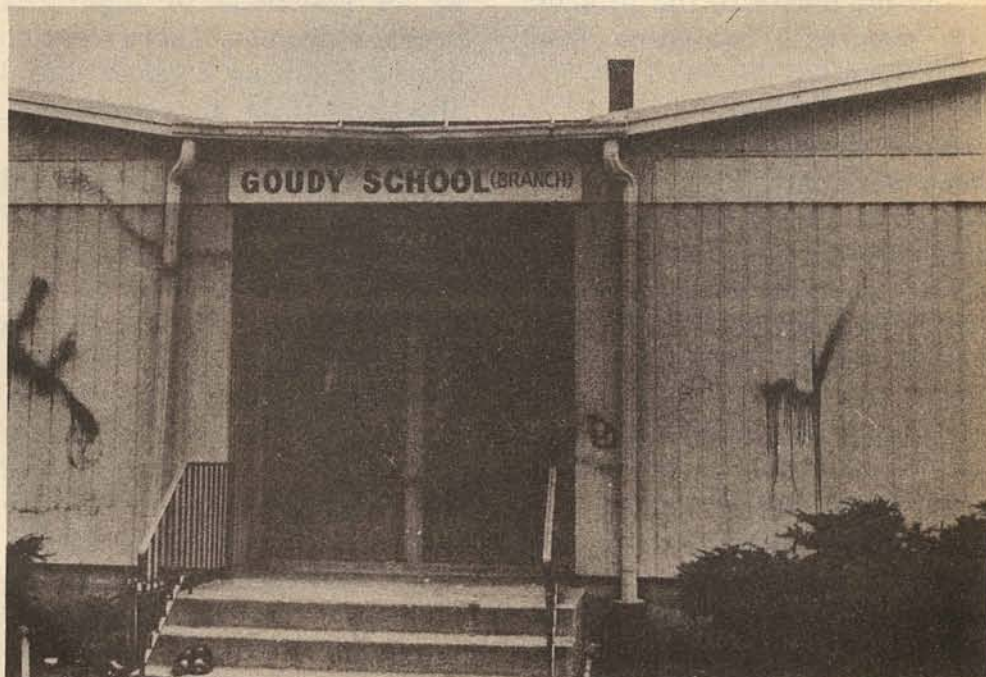
(Chicago, Ill.) Glenn Darby, Jr. stepped up to the podium to receive his diploma. Graduating from the eighth grade at Goudy School, on Chicago's northside, may not make the *Sun-Times*, but for the Darby family it was a proud moment.

Glenn and his parents were rightfully angered when they opened the scroll and found a note informing Glenn that he had to complete a summer reading course before he could graduate.

Mr. Darby had attended parent-teacher conferences at Goudy during the year and was told his son would graduate in June. In a recent interview, he explained his anger to a KEEP STRONG reporter. He pointed out that Glenn had requested to be transferred to O.W. Wilson School, which has a special program combining basic skills and vocational training. But officials at Goudy said he was doing fine there. Glenn had

brought home a note in the spring telling him to report to Senn High School, in September.

Mr. Darby spent \$50 on a suit and shoes for his son's graduation, as well as \$23 for an assortment of graduation items.



Goudy School, 5120 N. Winthrop; Glenn Darby feels that Goudy School officials brought his son to the graduation ceremony in a deceitful manner.

of the summer reading course. But in some schools, where there is a deeper respect for the dignity of the children and their parents, more honest methods are used to ensure the children's success.

Administrators at Joan Arai Middle School, 900 W. Wilson Ave., report that letters informing the parents of the needed remedial readings and requesting a conference are sent well ahead of the graduation date. □

## **UCLC Brings Shimer College To Uptown**

(Chicago, Ill.) After the Uptown Community Learning Center's successful first year attempt to develop a high quality college program suited to the needs of people from Uptown and surrounding communities, the Center has been rewarded by a new affiliation with the prestigious Shimer College. According to Center staff, the new Shimer program at the UCLC will continue to combine a strong, general educational foundation with concentrations aimed at preparing students with job skills for the kind of jobs that are available today. The Shimer affiliation will greatly assist in the Center's goals.

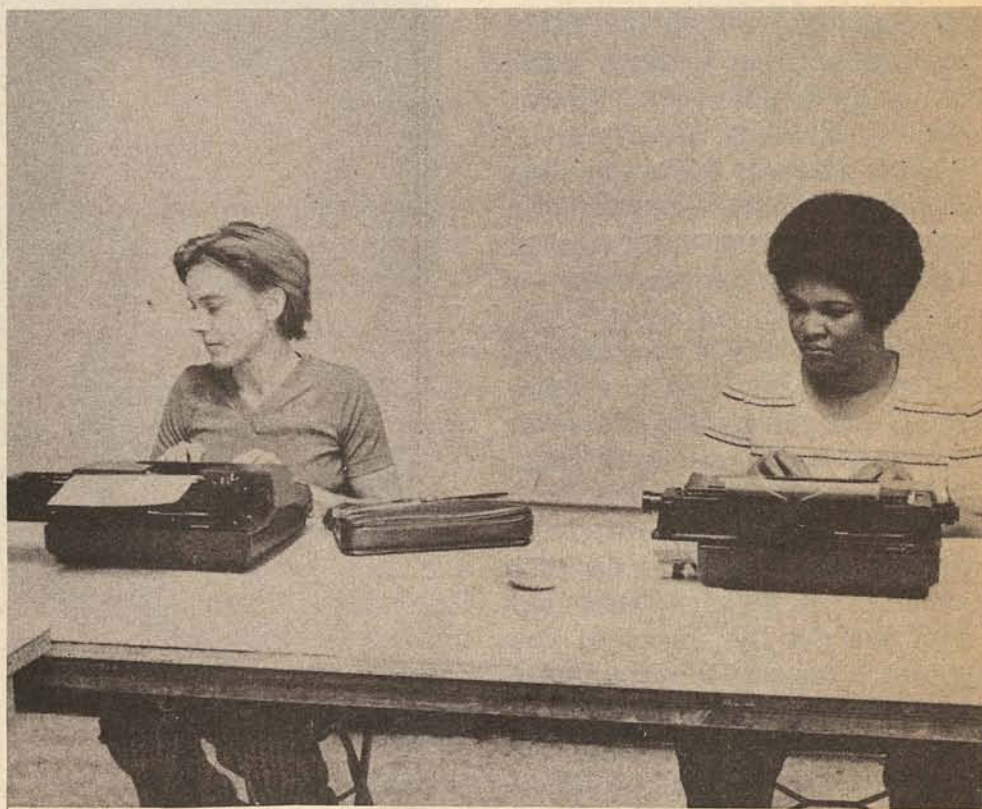
According to Helen Shiller, who spearheaded the new affiliation, the 115-year-old school, with its relationships with the University of Chicago, the University of Illinois and other Chicago-based colleges, has a

strong curriculum that has produced students successfully competing with institutions such as Harvard and Yale. It is the goal of the UCLC to bring the advantages of one of the best educations in the country to those who are usually denied any access to college education because of the struggle to survive. The small size of the classes allows for intensive tutoring and for job counseling as students pursue concentrations in Health Science, Engineering, Graphic Arts and Accounting.

Community leaders point out that Uptown has been written off by the city as an area where the majority of the people are "unemployable and uneducable." It is the stated purpose of the UCLC to provide an educational model that proves that this socially dangerous write-off is wholly untrue. According to one

staff member, "What our students lack in formal education, they more than make up for in life experience and the wisdom gained in the struggle for survival and self-respect."

The UCLC's close relationship with community-controlled institutions and organizations such as the new Uptown People's Health Center, the Heart of Uptown Block Club Coalition and Community Development program, the Legal Education and Defense program at the Uptown People's Community Service Center, among others, makes it possible for students to be involved in practical "field experience" projects while they are working for their degrees. This should go a long way towards insuring that students who complete the degree program bring their new skills back into the service of the



Typing class at the Uptown People's Community Learning Center. It is the stated purpose of the UCLC to provide an educational model that disproves the city's claim that people are unemployable and uneducable.

community.

Shimer offers an accredited high school diploma program during the first year of college work for those who have been denied a high school education but are qualified to begin college by their life experience and serious desire for education. The two year AA and AS degrees are also available and will complement the UCLC's program of arming the student with a marketable skill in the first two years of college. On the other hand, students will be encouraged to complete the four year

course and go on to graduate schools, medical schools and law schools. "Our students should be prepared to survive, to analyze events around them, to contribute to their community, to effectively determine their own destiny."

While a few more applications are being taken for the fall term, the program, limited to 125 students, is nearly filled up. For more information, prospective students should call 769-2085 or come to the campus at 4715 N. Broadway □

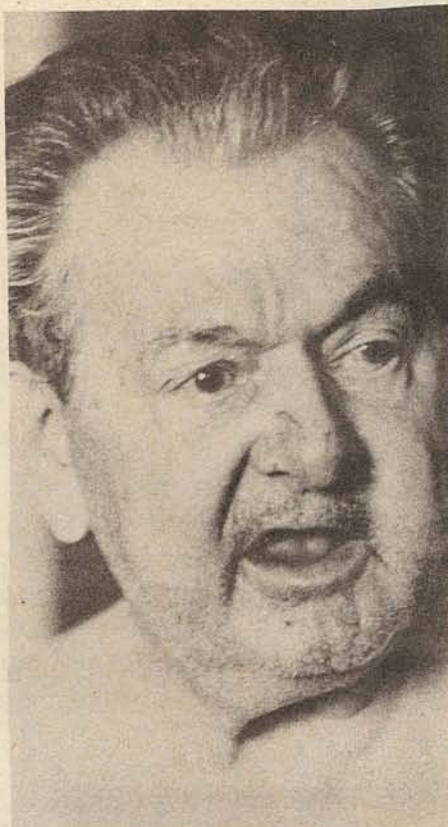
ostrich. Heads down and butts up. That's 72 pairs of shoes an hour — over a pair a minute, and you've got to move.

"If you got sick, you were sick. But don't get sick, because you might get fired, and if you were sick for any period of time, you'd more than likely be replaced. I don't remember being sick — because if you live on beans, potatoes and sow belly, you just have to stay healthy! Really though, there was no choice. If you've got a wife and family and making that kind of wage, you can't afford to get sick.

## Behind The Faces

### Al Buntin

(Chicago, Ill.) "Back in 1933, I worked at the Brown's Shoe Company in Mattoon, Illinois. Conditions there were terrible. We got 13 cents for assembling 36 pairs of shoes. I remember I asked the foreman for a raise. I asked him for 2 cents more for every 36th pair of shoes I put out. He said, 'If you ever ask me for another raise again, I'll fire you.' Now, you can imagine what working conditions were like. We worked 10 hours a day from seven in the morning to six in the evening. We took an hour for lunch. If you got five racks that day, you got five racks. If you got four, you got four. You figure four times 13 cents or five cents. That's how much you made for the next ten hours. You didn't get to go home. When they were busy they wanted you to bear



down — get at least two cases in an hour. I mean you really bear down. It was just like playing

"This was right in the middle of the depression, and people were getting tired of getting kicked. You see, we had no hope because we had nothing behind us. Oh, you might have one or two buddies, but you and your one or two buddies are not going to go up against the company alone. Your buddies are going to say, 'Look, I'd like to help, and I'm all for it, but man I've got a wife and three kids, or I'm in hock up to my ears. When you're alone, I don't care how bad it is, it's better than nothing.

"I remember when Jack Spiegel was young, and he came to Mattoon. In fact, I even remember where me and my wife sat at the first union meeting — in the front row. They came all the way from Chicago downstate to help us. There were five of them. They were shoe workers — union organizers. They wanted to get the other factories organized. Florsheim owned the factories in Chicago, most of them, and the union wanted to get the "Big 3" — Federal, International and Brown's Shoe Company organized.

"It was a real struggle. The company's response was violent. They threatened to fire you and everything else. They made it miserable on you. But people have survived misery. The workers didn't give up. They kept trying to organize. They had three or four elections, and finally the union got in.

"After that we got bargaining rights, more money for different patterns, smoking rights. It was

worth everything that was put into it. We gained so much. The company can't just tell you, 'You do this or you're done.' They just can't do that. You've got the union behind you. So when you've got the union behind you, you've got the people behind you. Before, it was each person was an individual. Today we don't have to work under those conditions because we didn't go under. We all stuck together."□

64 VA hospitals where doctors and scientists are trying to find better ways of treating veterans' illnesses. If passed by Congress, this research would end, and the hospitals would close down.



Jimmy Carter is determined to end the well-earned special considerations that have been given to veterans.

## Veterans Advisor

### Benefits Threatened By Carter Administration

*With this first installment, KEEP STRONG announces the establishment of a regular column of advice to Vietnam veterans. Nowhere is this system's inhumanity more clearly exposed than in its neglect of the men it sent to fight in Vietnam.*

*The KEEP STRONG staff hopes that the information in this section assists these men and their families in their difficult struggle to survive.*

It is becoming clear where Jimmy Carter and his administration stand on the issues affecting Vietnam veterans. Judging from the actions of the administration, it seems that their intent is to do away with whatever commitments the government has to help Vietnam veterans.

For example, anti-veteran el-

ements in the Carter administration have attacked the 1944 G.I. Bill as too "costly" and discriminating in favor of people with a greater "need" for educational assistance. At the same time, Carter has done nothing to support either the needed structural changes in the G.I. Bill educational benefits program or to expand participation by veterans, particularly those who need technical and vocational training rather than a college education.

Carter has proposed several actions that would reduce the government's commitment to all veterans. As part of a Civil Service package which the President presented to Congress, job preference which has been given to veterans by the federal government since 1944 would be severely limited. Another proposal would eliminate research at

Attempts to cover up their intentions, and make it appear as though they're trying to help veterans, are backfiring. An example of this is the HIRE Program (Help through Industry Retraining and Employment). Announced in January 1977, the goal of the this \$140 million program was to give jobs to 100,000 veterans. In drawing it up, Carter never consulted with the business community, nor did he act swiftly to establish a bureau in the Department of Labor to deal with problems of veterans' unemployment. It is no surprise then that according to Department of Labor statistics, less than 200 veterans actually became employed through the program.

The only conclusion which can be drawn is that Jimmy Carter is determined to end the well-earned special considerations that have been given to all veterans because of their personal sacrifice.□

# Occupational Health

## "They Would Hide The Chemicals"

(Chicago, Ill.) Bert Martin worked for Tele-Type Corporation in Skokie for 22 years. The company manufactures parts for Tele-Type machines. While the work involves exposure to several chemicals, he was never warned of any danger to his health in working with these chemicals.

"They didn't tell us anything, and there were no kind of precautions taken. No masks or gloves or anything. If you burned all the skin off my thumb, and I had to work on a different job for a few days. It's hard to heal up. It's like a blister. It would make my hands turn red."

Over the years, Mr. Martin began to be sick a lot. "I would feel dizzy and drowsy all the time. It was hard for me to breathe. I was always short of breath. I came home early several times because I wanted to sleep all the time. I'd go to the washroom, and I'd fall asleep. I'd fall asleep at lunch time."

"The last three years I was sick all the time. I would go to the doctor, and he would give me cough medicine and a couple of different kinds of pills. Then I'd get over it for a few days and then have to go back because I'd be sick all over again.

"One guy had an operation on

his chest twice. He had the same problem I do. Another guy was having trouble breathing and was tired all the time. He left the company. I don't think they really knew what was wrong with them. I didn't realize it was these chemicals affecting me for a long time either."

Mr. Martin worked with a chemical called Trichloroethane. "We used Trichloroethane as a solvent to clean and remove any scratches from the piece parts we made. The cutting oil was used to keep the machines cool

while cutting. I inhaled this chemical almost every day. The company wouldn't tell you that these chemicals were dangerous. When OSHA inspectors would come, they would hide the chemicals. They're interested in you making so many pieces in an hour. It's a real rat race."

According to an industrial hygienist from the Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the agency was not aware that Trichloroethane was used at Tele-Type and had never tested to be sure it was being used safely there. It still doesn't know at what level the chemical exists in the air and how dangerous the level is. But according to the Chicago Area Committee on Occupational Safety and Health, Trichloroethane, when combined with substances such as lard oil or soluble mineral seal oil, both used as coolants at Tele-Type, can cause serious lung damage.

A spokesman for Tele-Type defended the company's safety program, saying, "We're a division of Western Electric which makes us a division of AT&T which makes us a pretty big operation. We have all kinds of safety programs. We even have a special safety program to brief employees on safety precautions while they're out of the plant on vacation."

Mr. Martin quit his job in December of 1977 and is now trying to get his workman's compensation. In order to do this, he had to take a breathing test at Northwestern Hospital which he was unable to complete because he can't exhale long enough to complete the test. □



Although AT&T brags about its safety program, the facts point to negligence.

# Black Lung

## Black Lung Associations Fight For Fair Regulations

(Washington, D.C.) The fight of black lung victims and their families for a just program of compensation and health care continued this summer as Black Lung Associations confronted the Department of Labor. The issue was the proposed regulations for implementation of the 1978 amendments to the Federal Coal Mine Health & Safety Act.

These amendments were the result of an intense four year struggle, led by black lung victims themselves, against abuses within the Department of Labor's black lung benefits program.

A key demand of the Black Lung Associations had been that the benefits program be permanently administered using the more fair 410.490 interim medical standards. These were the standards in use before the program was transferred to the Department of Labor (DOL).

The Department fought hard behind the scene for the right to set up its own permanent medical standards. The law that passed reflected a compromise. The DOL would write the standards for claims that were pending or previously denied, using the easier 410.490 standards as a guide. While the Department was given authority to write new standards for future claims, the statute provided numerous guiding principles to protect the miners' rights.

But the Department of Labor's proposed regulations for pending and future claims twisted the positive points of the new law against the coal miners.

One example is that of the so-called B-readers. The B-readers are radiologists contracted by the DOL to re-read X-rays that have been read positive for black lung. Considered "experts" by the labor department, their

readings, which are consistently negative, are used to deny many claims.

Although the new law bans the use of B-readers except when fraud is suspected, the proposed regulations contain contradictory wording that leaves them an opening to keep the whole B-reader system intact.

At the hearings in Washington, it became obvious that the DOL was attempting to get around the ban on B-readers. The meeting was stacked with "medical experts" from the DOL who urged that the routine use of B-readers be preserved, claiming they would save many lives by revealing "other life threatening sicknesses." The Chicago Area Black Lung Association noted that these doctors represented a conservative medical establishment that did not understand the real medical problems of oppressed people.

The Black Lung Associations attacked another proposed rule in which the DOL would reserve the right to re-open any claim that had been granted and force the person to go through more tests and X-rays, if the Department thought he might no longer

Members of the West Virginia Black Lung Association at a recent meeting. A key demand of Black Lung Associations has been that the program be administered using fairer medical standards.



be disabled. The associations reasoned that this was absurd as black lung is an incurable disease. Spokespersons explained that the regulation would discourage people who had won claims from utilizing the free respiratory care that is part of the black lung program, for fear that any relief of the symptoms might be used to take their benefits away.

Observers feel that the coal industry has been able to organize a good part of the medical establishment to play down the extent and effects of black lung disease, so the industry can pay out less in benefits.

But it was clear that the victims of occupational dust

diseases, having fought the powerful medical establishment in the past, would continue to fight for preventative health care.

Bill Bailly, speaking for the West Virginia Black Lung Association, emphasized, "We have had to come back here time and again since 1969 when we first won this law. We would like to be able to hope that now you will finally agree to what is right, and we won't have to come back again. But you can believe that if we have to, we will."

Under pressure, the DOL agreed to hold more hearings in the coal mining areas before the final regulations are published. □

\$10,000 per day against the firm.

The complaint alleges, among other things, that because the company did not always have advertised items available in its showrooms, its salespersons were encouraged to use "bait and switch" practices and other deceptive or false sales tactics. Attorney Owen explained how "bait and switch" works; "They use advertising to lure a customer to the store. Once they get there, they find the advertised furniture is not available. Sometimes it is available, but the salesperson downgrades the product and plays up a higher item."

Other deceptive advertising practices cited in the complaint included:

- The misrepresentation that merchandise was offered at special or reduced prices and that purchasers would save money;

## Consumer Watch

### *Nelson Brothers: Deceptive Practices*

(Chicago, Ill.) "Nelson Brothers loves me, and they'll love you, too!" goes the jingle. According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), Nelson Bros. loved themselves most. A complaint, prepared by the FTC stemming from an investigation in 1973 and 1974, charged that the Chicago-based furniture firm had been engaged in several deceptive advertising and sales practices resulting in customers paying higher prices than advertised and/or not getting what they paid for.

Nelson Bros., in a move to avoid a costly and lengthy trial in a dispute which had already dragged on for years, agreed to settle out of court. By settling out of court, Nelson Bros. was also able to avoid a court decision that they did, in fact, engage in deceptive practices. The settlement, or consent order, will most likely take effect sometime next fall, according to FTC attorney Nathan P. Owen. Continued deceptive practices, once the order becomes final, would result in fines up to



Many citizens feel that Nelson Brothers has been guilty of deceptive practices.

- The promotion of room displays which were not available for purchase at the advertised rates;

- The failure to mention that in certain circumstances there would be charges for installation, set-up or assembly, or service and warranty charges, or that a customer would have to pay to have merchandise in working condition; and

- Failure to adequately disclose when merchandise was used, damaged or defective.

In the future, Nelson Bros. will be prohibited from engaging in these challenged activities and will be required to tell all customers, in writing, when merchandise is sold "as is" or "as shown" with defects, irregularities or damage.

Up until now, many Nelson Bros. customers have had no recourse other than to stop making their monthly payments, once they found out that the merchandise they thought was good was indeed defective. Once the court order goes into effect, customers will have a course of action. Complaints regarding the quality, quantity or condition of merchandise, or Nelson Bros.' failure to replace the goods or make a refund, can be lodged with the Arbitration Program of the Better Business Bureau of Metropolitan Chicago, Inc., 35 E. Wacker Drive, Chicago (312)346-3868. Customers will not have to pay for this proceeding, but Nelson Bros. will have to abide by the decision of the BBB arbitration board.

Of course, Nelson Bros. is not the only company which has

used deceptive tactics to gyp customers. When people run across this deception in other stores, it may be worth a call or letter to the Federal Trade Commission, 55 E. Jackson,

Chicago, Ill. (312) 353-4423. According to Attorney Owen, the FTC order against Nelson Bros. can be applied against other furniture and appliance stores as well. □

# Fighting City Hall

## Independent Aldermen Expose Bilandic Mortgage Plan

(Chicago, Ill.) On July 7, the Chicago City Council, by a 45-2 vote, hastily approved a \$100 million plan, proposed only a week earlier by Mayor Bilandic, which will create \$88 million in "low" interest mortgages for Chicago homebuyers.

Although the opposition of the independents failed to significantly alter the mortgage plan, the amendments offered clearly exposed Mayor Bilandic's claim that the plan was designed to benefit low and moderate-income people. In reality, the plan was shown to be a scheme to make a few financial institutions richer while having no substantial impact on the rest of the community.

Under the new law, an estimated 2,000 to 3,000 families with incomes up to \$40,000 will be eligible for mortgages up to \$80,000 for homes, condominiums, multi-unit buildings with as many as six flats, and remodeling and repairs. Though interests at 8 to 8½ percent will be lower than the current going rate of 10¼ percent, it only reflects a return to the standard

rate of a few months ago. Low down payments of 5 to 10 percent are possible under the plan, compared to the usual 20 percent. The low interest and down payment rates were used by Bilandic to bolster his claim that the plan was for low and moderate-income residents who have had difficulty obtaining mortgages.

Independent Aldermen Dick



Mayor Bilandic presented the plan, which was not intended for low and moderate income people.

Simpson, Martin Oberman and Ross Lathrop challenged numerous aspects of the legislation which allows the city to sell tax-exempt bonds to make money available for mortgages. In addition, they challenged the specific legislation which set up the First Federal Savings and Loan Association as the lending institution and administrator and E.F. Hutton and Co. as the insurer of the program. An amendment was offered which would have made any savings and loan association eligible to receive the bond money and issue mortgages. Another was introduced which would have required First Federal Savings and Loan to match the loans purchased through the city plan dollar for dollar and with similar interest rates in order to provide additional mortgages.

Though these proposed changes failed, their aim was to put heat on the financial institutions which will make a killing off of Bilandic's plan. They were also proposed because it was clear from the start that Bilandic would not stop at \$100 million. A section of the enabling legislation would have allowed the Mayor to issue additional bonds without having public hearings. This section was deleted from the bill by one of the independent aldermen's successful amendments.

The foresight of this amendment was seen right away. Immediately upon the passage of the \$100 million mortgage plan, Bilandic proposed that another \$310 million in bonds be sold. These additional bond issues will have to await the city council's summer recess. But the handwriting is on the wall. Mayor



Alderman Simpson believes that participating banks should match the funds that the city puts up.

Bilandic wants to turn the home mortgage business over to the largest savings and loan companies in the city and especially to E.F. Hutton & Co.

It is E.F. Hutton & Co., the New York-based insurance company, which devised the plan in the first place and which stands to make over \$3 million in fees from the first \$100 million in bonds, and probably another \$6 million from the proposed bonds, according to Alderman Lathrop's calculations. Likewise, First Federal Savings and Loan will make at least a million and a half, not including interest. The other savings and loan associations which would cash in on the future bond issues are Talman, Bell, Northwest and Chicago, all, along with First Federal, among the top ten savings and loans companies in the city.

Although Alderman Simpson of the 44th ward eventually voted for the initial home loan

plan, he was very clear in his opposition to the second package; "For the additional \$310 million, they're going to have to adopt all of our amendments. The funds will have to be available to all the savings and loans; the savings and loans will have to match the funds, if not provide three or four times the amount. The mortgages will have to be specifically designated for moderate-income people and targeted for specific neighborhoods."

Alderman Oberman attacked the effectiveness of the initial home loan plan, arguing on behalf of an amendment which would have targeted the mortgage monies to the city's unstable communities, the 16 areas designated in the city's community development proposal as "strategy areas." "These are the areas where it is now most



Alderman Oberman says, "Five hundred mortgages in one neighborhood would have quite an impact."

difficult to get a home loan. If the mortgages are scattered throughout the city, there would be little effect. Five hundred mortgages to one neighborhood would have quite an impact."

Circle Campus Urban Studies Professor Pierre de Vise claimed there was no pretense that the plan was to benefit low and moderate-income people. According to de Vise, the plan was

intended as a "bonus" for "conventional" buyers. Alderman Roman Pucinski was more blunt; "The bottom line is selling these bonds, and if they are geared to low-income families, they will not be sold."

All was not lost, however, in the passage of the bill. The independents won a very important change with the deletion of the enabling legislation's

"Urban Renewal" provision. This section of the bill, to change the city code, would have sharply increased to city's right to "eminent domain." Under eminent domain, the city can take any property for public use, the building of a school or a freeway, for example. But if Mayor Bilandi and City Planning Commissioner Lew Hill had their way, the mortgage bill would have enabled the city to condemn *any property for any reason.* □

## Judges To Pick Election Board Chairman In Closed Session

(Chicago, Ill.) Intense public pressure in 1972 forced the appointment of John Hanley as Chairman of the scandal-ridden Board of Election Commissioners. Hanley, who was brought in from outside Chicago politics, was hailed as an honest and reform-minded commissioner who brought much needed changes to the Board of Elections.

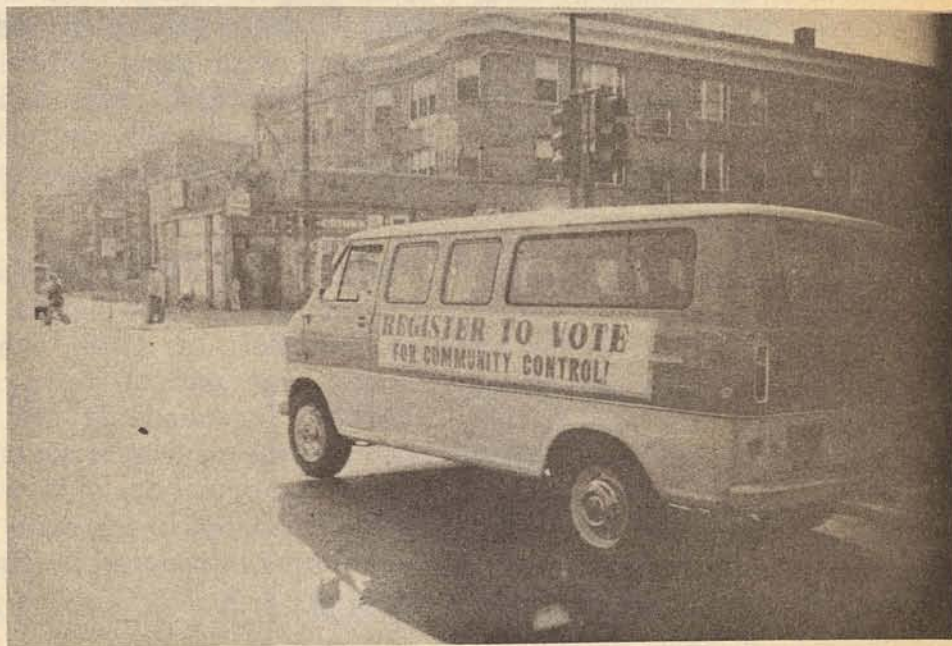
Hanley's resignation in June of this year has sparked renewed interest among political independents and government reform groups in the appointment of his successor. Fearful that a regular democratic machine hack would be appointed, 17 concerned civic and reform groups formed the Ad Hoc Committee on the Selection of Chicago Board of Election Commissioners. The committee has sought to open up the selection process to public scrutiny. Presently, candidates for chairman are interviewed by a committee of five circuit judges, currently headed by

Judge Donald O'Brien. Based on the recommendations of the interview panel, all 167 judges of the Cook County Circuit Court vote by ballot for chairman.

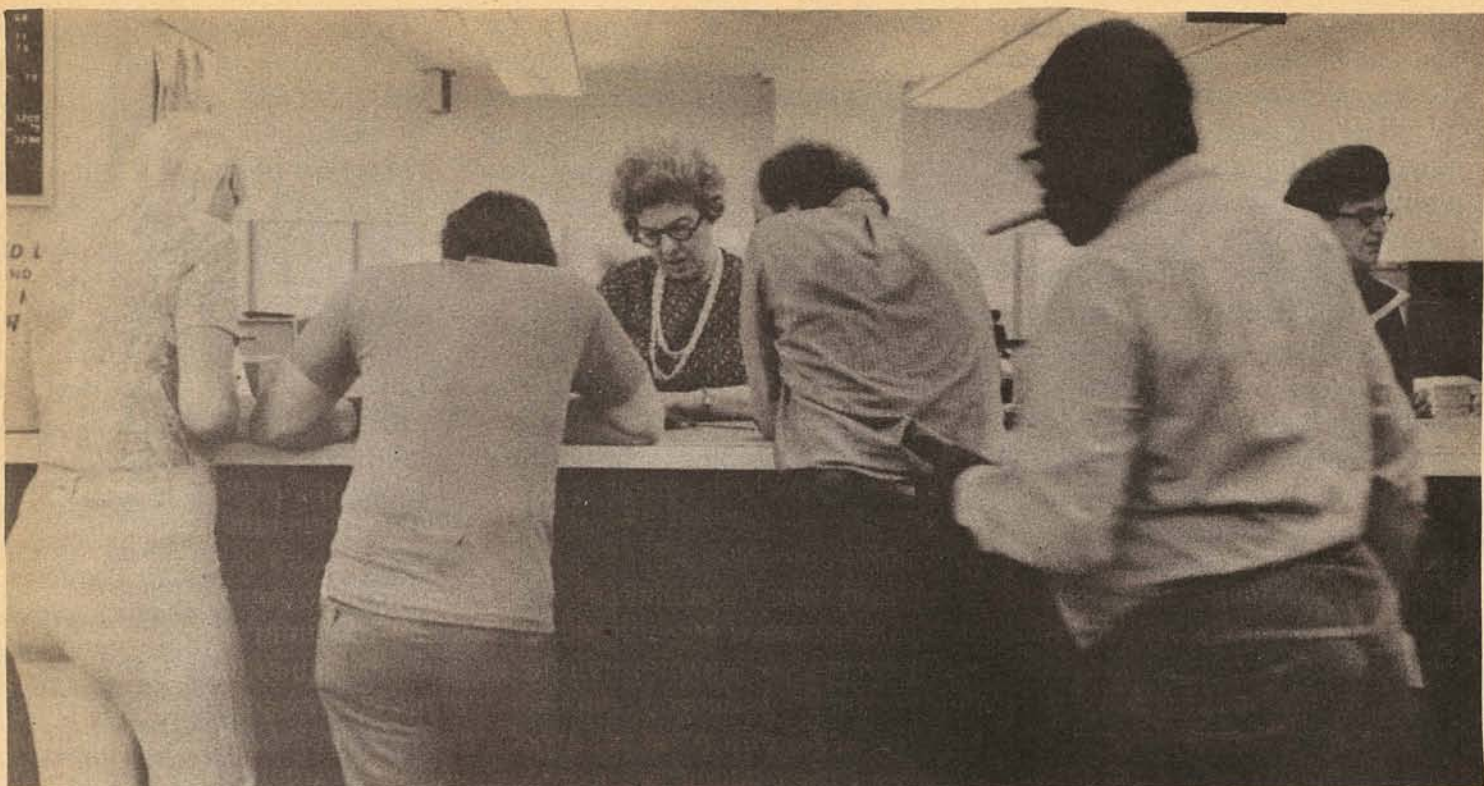
The Ad Hoc Committee spe-

cifically sought to have the judges set standards by which to measure possible candidates, have the names of candidates announced publicly and to allow the public to participate in the questioning of candidates.

The committee's proposal picked up support from many individuals and both Chicago papers. But the judges aren't buying it. In a recent letter from Judge O'Brien to Carol Zavala of the West Side People's Caucus



Scene from 1975 Voter Registration Drive. Howard Medley is moving to eliminate all community outreach voter registration.



and organizer of the Ad Hoc Committee, O'Brien said the interviews would be conducted in "executive session" and closed to the public. The interviews began July 18.

The recent indefinite postponement of this summer's Voter Registration Outreach program by election commissioner Howard Medley has created an even greater concern from independent forces. Medley is one of two remaining Board of Election Commissioners who, according to political sources, is a machine hack down the line.

The Voter Registration Outreach program was one of the many reform programs introduced during Hanley's stay in office. It began to ease the difficulty in voter registration in Chicago by setting up, through community groups, neighborhood sites for limited periods of time. Chicago's registration process is one of the most closed in

the nation. Generally, there is only one day a year residents can register in their neighborhood. At any other time registration must be done downtown at city hall during regular business hours. The well-known practice of machine precinct captains being able to register who they want without a trip to city hall, combined with great difficulty for the average citizen, has produced a politically-controlled registration process, observers note.

Medley ordered the outreach program halted once before, in the summer of 1976, while Hanley was out of town on vacation. Independents are afraid that the machine is not only moving to appoint one of its own for chairman, but to end many of the reforms introduced by Hanley.

In a related development, 25 Chicago residents filed suit, seeking to have Medley removed

Except for one day a year, the only place to register to vote is at City Hall (above), making it very difficult for many people to register.



as a commissioner. The suit points out that Medley's term of office expired in December 1977. The suit also charges him with participating in partisan politics, and continuing to operate his moving business in violation of state law which requires an election commissioner to be a full-time job. □

# **UPTOWN COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER**

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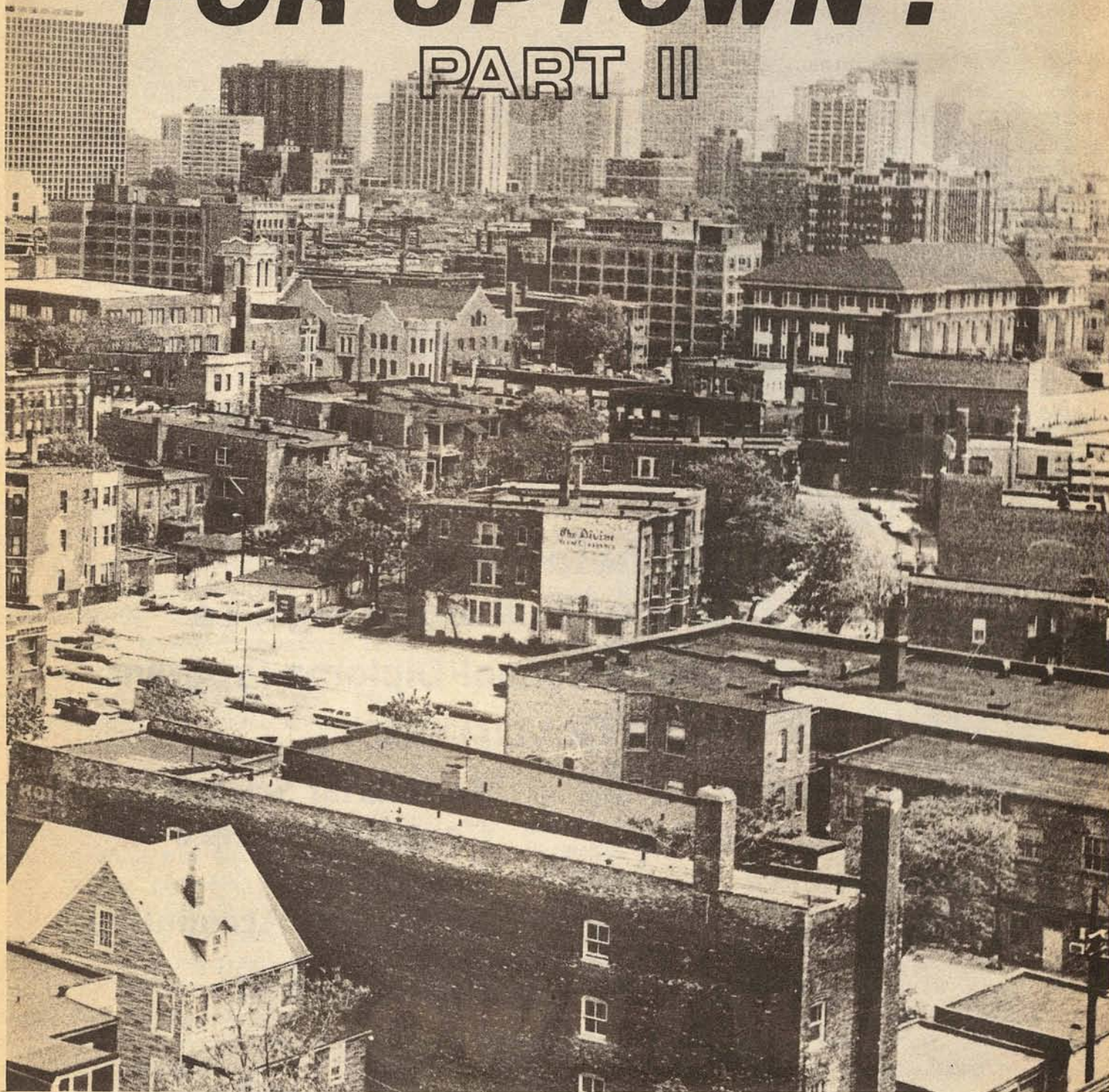
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# **WHO WILL WIN THE BATTLE FOR UPTOWN?**

## **PART II**



## Community pressure, programs and pride offer hope in the battle to stop Uptown's destruction.

A call for "Community Pride Week," the resistance of families on Clifton Street to being driven from their homes with nothing, and the commitment of federal funds to repair back porches in this community are all highlights of the Heart of Uptown's latest drive to assemble some weapons for the next stage of the battle for Uptown. With the technical assistance and community leadership of Helen Shiller, families and organizers have taken lessons learned from Ms. Shiller's aldermanic campaign and begun to apply them to the larger battle to maintain and stabilize this community and keep it for the people.

Since the end of the campaign on May 16, Ms. Shiller has continued to take a very active role in matters of concern to the Uptown community, while families who worked hard on her campaign have begun to organize a series of programs which they feel will unify and strengthen the neighborhood.

In early June the 20 families living at 4445 and 4449 N. Clifton were notified that Truman College had bought their buildings, and they had 90 days to move before the buildings would be torn down. A letter from the city colleges informed them that they could keep their rent, and a "relocation counselor" would be

assigned to assist them in moving. Much earlier in the year, they had been promised that they would become automatically eligible for section 8 housing subsidies (Tenants pay only 25% of their income for rent while the government pays the remainder.) when they were forced to move. Now they were being told to move, every three days, and the only thing they had was a number on a long waiting list for housing subsidies.

The first week of July some tenants contacted Ms. Shiller through the Heart of Uptown Block Club Coalition. A series of discussions between Helen and the families produced a plan which would call for a cash settlement of \$20,000 to cover the families' moving expenses and increased rents. At a press conference on July 7, in front of the buildings, the families issued a statement explaining the college's destructive role in the community and indifference toward their situation. The statement demanded \$20,000 and described why it was necessary.

One week later, the tenants, again represented by Helen Shiller, spoke before the board of directors of the City College System of Chicago, of which Truman College is a part.

Ms. Shiller outlined the history of relations between the

college and the Uptown community and went on to clarify the specific problems that the 20 families on Clifton are having now. She pointed out that the families would not, in fact, have three months' free rent if they moved as quickly as the college wanted them to, and because of this, the college's statement that they have given the tenants 90 days free rent was not true or relevant.

Chancellor Shabat of the city college system responded by producing a letter from the Department of Planning, City & Community Development, promising that the tenants would be able to get section 8 subsidies upon demand. He instructed Irving Slutsky, Vice Chancellor, to insure that a responsible maintenance and repair program operates so long as there are tenants left in the building. In his last response to Ms. Shiller's demand, Shabat went on to say that he would be open to specific requests to assist people with moving expenses and that he would take steps to ensure that community residents could be hired in the construction work at the new college site.

Beginning with a community services needs survey in mid-June, the Block Club Coalition identified a large number of rear porches in dangerously weak condition throughout the com-

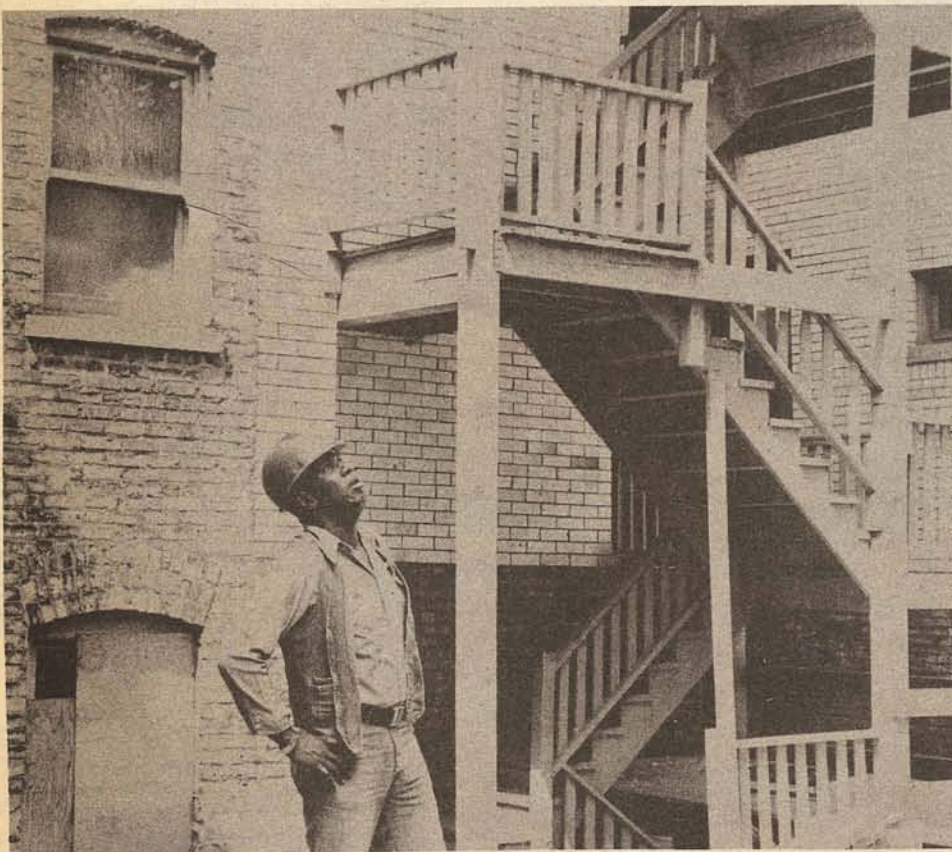


Residents of Clifton Street who are being evicted by Truman College, held a press conference on June 7 (above). They issued a statement explaining the college's destructive role in the community, and demanding \$20,000.

munity. Organizers of the survey were fully aware that in the past, most tenants have found themselves having to choose between living in substandard housing or working with middle class groups to pressure small landlords in building court and succeeding in driving away the landlords and destroying the much-needed housing. Ms. Shiller sat down with representatives from the Block Club Coalition to work out a program that could guarantee safety while keeping the buildings standing.

Landlords in possession of the problem buildings were contacted directly and advised of the immediate need to fix the porches and that the Block Club Coalition would help them get financing if they didn't have enough money. A series of negotiations began between representatives of the Block Club Coalition and the Department of Buildings and the Department of Planning, City & Community Development. An agreement was reached which places the Block Club Coalition, a network of community residents on Kenmore, Buena, Racine, Magnolia, Malden, Beacon, Sunnyside, in between the building department and the city planning department.

The building inspectors will advise the block clubs of buildings needing repair, and the block clubs will take the landlords down to the city planning department to make application for available federal funds. Block club organizers stress that this agreement is important because it begins to make both the landlord and the building inspector accountable to the tenants



Contractor John Harris inspects rear porches during the Heart of Uptown Block Club Coalition's Community Needs survey.

rather than the dollar.

At the same time, investigators for the Uptown People's Community Service Center, working for the Block Club Coalition, have uncovered a great deal of information on the activities of slumlord Ron Villa (See KEEP STRONG; June-July 1978) who operates a number of buildings in this neighborhood. As editor of KEEP STRONG magazine, Helen Shiller has taken a particular interest in this investigation. She has talked to people at block club meetings and on the streets throughout Uptown about the campaign to bring Villa, and his silent partners, under control once and for all, as an example for others. As we go to press, KEEP STRONG has learned that leaders of the Heart of Uptown Block Club Coalition and Ms. Shiller will shortly make a joint announcement on the results of this investigation as well as a new, wider, official investigation of Villa's dealings.

It is clear that the efforts and organizing of community residents over the last few years are really only now beginning to produce the tools that are necessary to keep the neighborhood going, with them in it. Alongside the Clifton Street fight and the back porch program a series of other strong-based programs have been established in the last several weeks. These include the expansion of the food buying clubs, the summer lunch program, organized and directed by mothers from the community, and the summer youth employment program, block club members report. Each day of each program



The Summer Lunch Program, organized and directed by mothers from the community.

The Food Buying Clubs are one of a series of strong-based programs bringing more and more people into the battle of Uptown.



Helen Shiller, in calling for a "Community Pride Week" from July 30 to August 5, has emphasized that while the city creates the conditions for the destruction of our community, it is the people themselves that have allowed the neighborhood to be overrun with dope dealers, wine bottles and loose garbage."

**“...Dedicate one week in the beginning of August to take direct action to restore the backbone to this community, get rid of the garbage and the dope, clean up the tot lots and rebuild the moral fiber that will be needed to resist the city’s destructive attack.”**

brings more people and more families into the battle for Uptown.

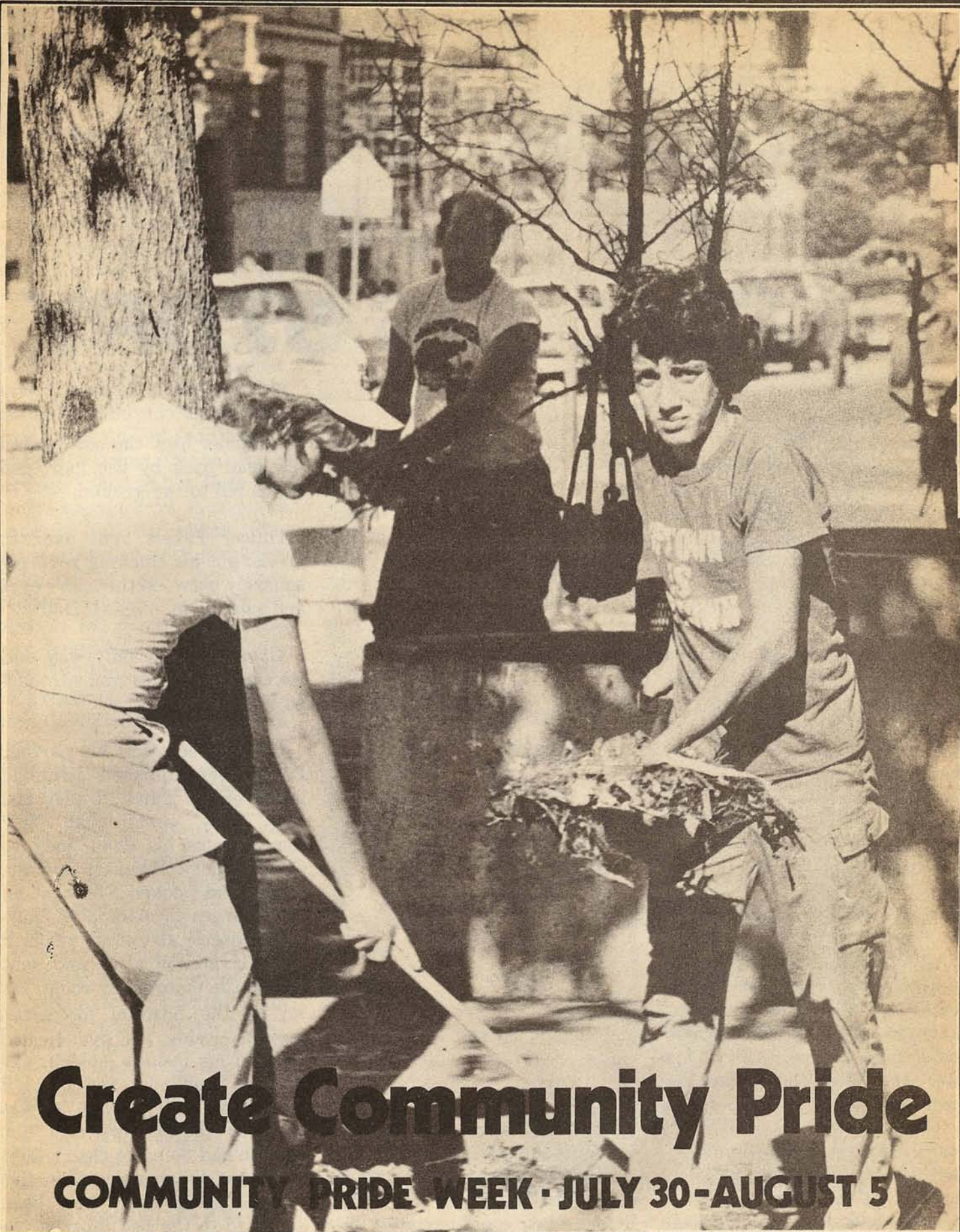
With this network of hundreds of families intact, Helen Shiller has called for a “Community Pride Week” from July 30-August 5. Using the key words “responsibility and self-respect,” over and over again, Ms. Shiller has emphasized that while the city creates the conditions for the destruction of our community, it is the people themselves that have allowed the neighbor-

hood to be overrun with dope dealers, wine bottles and loose garbage. With sadness, Ms. Shiller points out that the greatest victims of our neglect are our own children.

Together with a group of people from across Uptown, Ms. Shiller has asked that residents dedicate one week in the beginning of August to take direct action to restore the backbone to this community, get rid of the garbage and the dope, clean up the tot lots and rebuild the moral

fiber that will be needed to resist the city’s destructive attack.

As a result of this call, a huge community-wide effort is now in motion to make July 30-August 5 culminating in the opening of the new Uptown People’s Health Center at Lawrence and Broadway, an extremely important time. Many believe that if the people can pull together with the single goal of taking back community and self pride, the battle for Uptown will be partially won. □



# Create Community Pride

COMMUNITY PRIDE WEEK · JULY 30 - AUGUST 5

# WALLACE DAVIS — HE LIVED TO TELL HIS STORY

(Chicago, Ill.) On March 8, 1975, Wallace Davis had been in Chicago for six years. He was 25 years old and operating three businesses in the Black community. He had built these businesses up from nothing, and he took very good care of them.

He and his friend Winston Fontenot had gone out that morning to lend some money to a friend. After that it was usual to make the rounds, checking on the businesses. The first stop was Wallace's Rib House. They found two men inside, burglarizing the place. Davis and Fontenot jumped the strangers, and when they had them under control, they called the police.

After 15 minutes there were still no police. They were called again, but the burglars got a chance to split and took it. Davis and Fontenot agreed not to go after them but to check the other businesses. They left a message for the police with Davis' mother who lived in the same building, and drove to the body shop. Arriving at the body shop they met the cold violence of Chicago's finest.

At 5:45 a.m. it isn't quite light yet in March. Wallace Davis parked his Camaro in front of his body shop on Chicago's west side. As he and Fontenot got out of the car, they saw two policemen walking towards them. Guns drawn, the police



shouted, "Turn around and put your hands on top of the car!" Davis and Fontenot did as they were told.

"BANG!" Davis felt himself lifted off the ground. A bullet, a .357 magnum at point blank range, exploded into his body. Before he could regain his balance, his feet were kicked out

from under him, the cop yanked his head back by the hair, and Davis fell to the ground.

Officer Freels bent over to Davis, put his smoking revolver squarely between the man's eyes and said, "Die, Nigger, Die!"

Davis took the only way out. He closed his eyes and pretended to die.

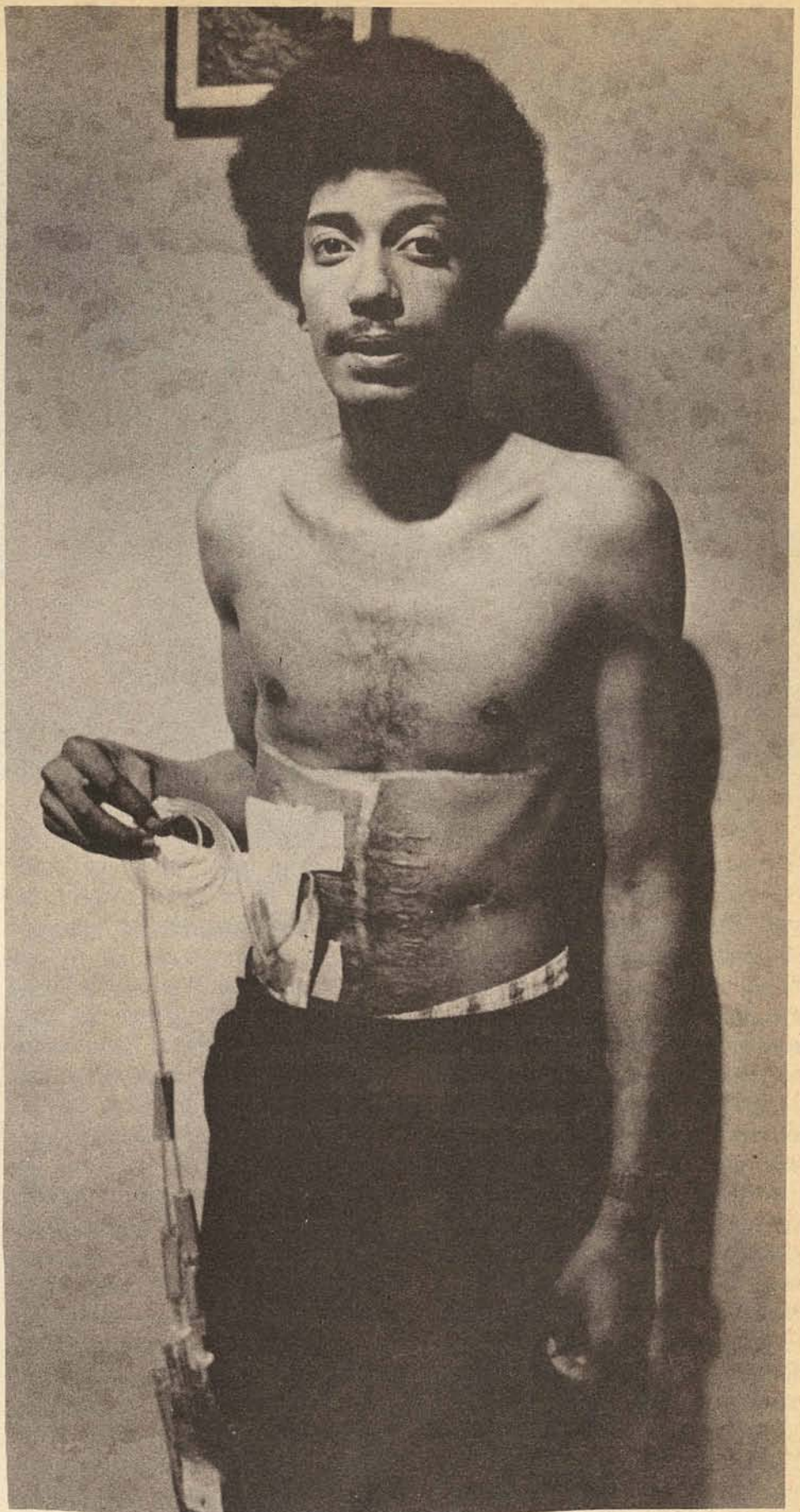
When Freels and his partner Daube were finished stripping Davis of his watch, wallet and ring, they sent what they thought was his dead body to Cook County Hospital and arrested and booked Fontenot on two charges of attempted murder. A doctor at County realized that Davis was alive and sent him to the emergency room. He lay in the hospital for seven months, losing 107 pounds and most of his insides (spleen, gall bladder, appendix and the left lobe of his liver). When he was released the doctors told him that he had no more than a 30% chance of living more than five years. Davis, who had been shackled to the bed most of the time he was in the hospital, and

Fontenot were tried on the charge of attempted murder. The alleged victims were the two burglars, who had been promised a deal if they would testify against Wallace and Winston Fontenot.

Davis was acquitted. Fontenot was convicted in a short bench trial. He was released on probation and was working at a gas station until he was shot at one day. He has since sought safety far from Chicago's dangerous streets and crazed police. Davis brought a suit in federal court against the city and Freels, seeking \$15 million in damages and Freels' firing. The case was heard by Judge Julius Hoffman, widely known for his racism and sympathy for the police. The trial was riddled with prejudice right until the very end when Hoffman refused the jury's request to be reinstructed after many hours locked in the jury room. The jury cleared the city and Freels of any wrongdoing. Davis filed an appeal which was heard in the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on April 26, 1978. The results of that hearing are still pending.

Talking with Wallace Davis, a person finds a deep man with only one desire. "You know my mother's home was firebombed in March. They stopped me in April on a driving charge and ordered me to court on the same day I was supposed to testify before the Illinois Law Commission. They offered me \$300,000 to settle before the trial in Hoffman's court was over. But the money is not what I really want.

"I think about all the men who have been killed, Black, White



Wallace Davis: "I feel that if I give up now, I will help pull the trigger of the next gun that shoots a child."



Chicago police have been cited for believing they can rampage through the Black communities and joke about it later.

and whatever. They're dead and can't come back to tell their story. But I'm still here, and I truly believe God's purpose for sparing me was to tell my story." Wallace Davis, and the thousands of people who are backing him, want Freels, the policeman who shot him. More importantly, they want to strike a blow to the heart of the monster Chicago Police Department. "That policeman who shot me is still out on the street. Every other month a man or boy is shot by the police, and nothing is ever done about it. I feel that if I give up now I will help pull the trigger of the next gun that shoots a child."

Davis is attacking the police department on firm grounds. Over the last two years, the police, Freels and Daube, and

the backup unit, Opasinski and Goldman, have been caught in over half a dozen major lies.

Most significant of these are; 1) in statements given to the Office of Professional Standards and the States Attorneys' office, Freels said that he saw Davis' hand go toward his coat as he approached him from behind. In court he denied seeing his hands at all; 2) the original accounts of the incident given by Freels and his partner say that Davis was speeding and driving recklessly. In court they have denied this and said he was driving normally; 3) the first person to talk with Freels after the shooting was Officer Opasinski. In court he denied ever making the statement that OPS has on record with his signature attached to

the page.

Using this collection of discrepancies, lies and contradictory statements, the Chicago Committee for Wallace Davis believes they can prove in the courts, as they have already proven to so many people in the community, that Freels thought he could murder a man and walk, and he acted accordingly, and the whole system is mobilized to cover it up. If they can prove this in the courts, they can help get a little piece of justice for the people. In the last five years, scores of people have been shot and killed by the Chicago Police Department. Families from the northwest side to the far south-side are watching Wallace Davis, feeling the brother's heart and hoping he wins his case. □

# **WHO WILL MAKE HEALTH CARE A HUMAN RIGHT?**

It is a hot, ozone-heavy summer night in Uptown. A woman sits out on the porch of her apartment explaining to friends that she was told by a doctor in an emergency room that she should have surgery. It was not clear to her why, but she is in pain. She was scheduled to go into the hospital, but she did not go, changing her mind at the last minute. She would not have known the doctors in the hospital, and she has heard too many horror stories of what happens to poor people in private hospitals.

Down the street a 12-year-old is moving herself slowly into a stupor, taking pills given to her by a storefront doctor who never gave her an adequate examination or explained the ailment he prescribed the medicine for. Each pill she takes gets her higher and makes it easier to take another one. She will be in the emergency room of some hospital before the night is over.

Above her a victim of black lung is gasping for air, his fingers gnarling up from long



"The new health center is a ray of light at the end of a dark tunnel of neglect."

years of the disease. He has no doctor, no consistent treatment and, in fact, has not even been able to find a doctor familiar with black lung enough to recognize what it is.

On the next block a 17-year-old girl is in her seventh month of pregnancy. She has never seen a doctor. She is taking medicine, to treat an infection, which she got from a relative and has no way of knowing if the medicine will harm the baby. She does not know where she will deliver the baby.

Earlier in the evening a man was picked up casually by the fire department ambulance, after a one hour wait, and taken to

Cook County Hospital where he may face open heart surgery. Although he had open heart surgery ten years ago and was told that he would have to face surgery again sometime in the next ten years, no method of consistent follow-up care was accessible to him. So seeing a doctor waited until he was found on the floor, gasping for air and turning blue in the face.

This is Uptown, and it is not an untypical night, because this community is what is known as a "medically underserved area." It has been so certified by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. It is in the midst of this community that a two year fight, designed and

led by community leader Helen Shiller, has finally resulted in the soon to be opened Uptown People's Health Center. The new health center is a ray of light at the end of a dark tunnel of neglect.

The new health center, located at 4824 N. Broadway, is sponsored by the Uptown People's Community Health Services Organization and backed jointly by the County Hospital health system and the federal government. It will be a family-oriented clinic with two pediatricians (children's doctors), family practice physicians, internists, obstetricians, gynecologists, a dentist, an optometrist and a podiatrist and a full staff of nurses and laboratory personnel. A pharmacy will be available at the clinic where patients can buy prescriptions at a 60% reduction. The Grand Opening for the clinic will be on August 5.

Combining with the new health center, the community health organization is organizing a program of health education and outreach that will see

thousands of people each month, dealing with problems ranging from back to school health problems to occupational diseases.

But the establishment of the new clinic comes at a time when public health care is being viciously attacked, and it has only been won because a persistent community fought through every twist and turn of the political intrigue involved in what many are calling the conspiracy to close Cook County Hospital.

### **Cook County Hospital — A Case In Point**

The contenders in the main bout at Cook County Hospital are George Dunne and the Cook County Board and James Haughton and the Health and Hospitals Governing Commission. George Dunne is the powerful Chairman of the central committee of the Cook County Democratic Party, "the machine," and the Cook County Board is responsible for collecting taxes in Cook County

and doling out money for services. The Health and Hospitals Governing Commission along with Director Haughton was set up after community complaints about politics in the running of the hospital, and it really acts as a buffer between the community and the County Board as it discharges its responsibility to operate Cook County Hospital, Fantus Clinic, Oak Forest Hospital and Cermak Hospital, along with several neighborhood clinics similar to the one soon to open in Uptown.

Round one in the main bout came earlier this year when the County Board and George Dunne refused to allow more than a small increase in the amount of money it would give to the Governing Commission. Since inflation had sent all hospital costs skyrocketing, this really amounted to a large cut, and 570 employees had to be laid off.

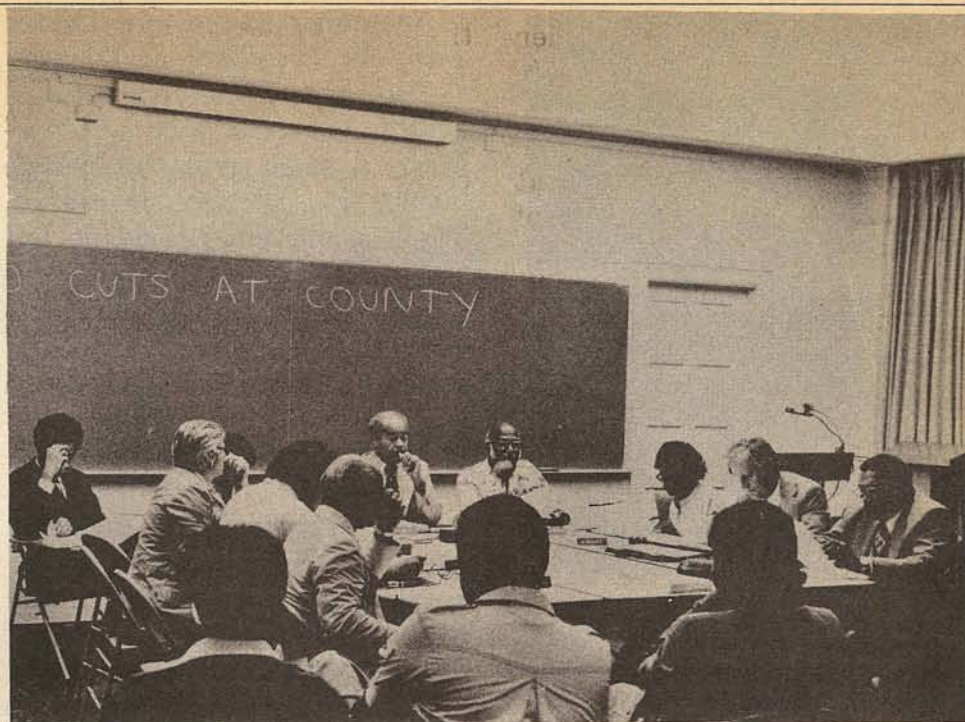
Still, the County Board provides only about 40% of the Governing Commission budget, the rest coming from welfare



Members of several Uptown organizations, at a meeting of the Cook County Health and Hospitals Governing Commission. The clinic has been won only because of the community's consistent fight.

and medicaid payments and other sources such as limited fees and insurance companies. Round two came when the County Board said it had the right to set the limit on how much the Governing Commission could spend out of its total budget. George Dunne went to court and got an injunction from one of his "in the machine pocket" judges to prove it. So the Governing Commission was told by the court to make another \$7 million cut or go to jail. End of round two.

In round three, the County Board's real intention is coming clear. The machine passed petitions, stacked meetings and exposed its undercover supporters on the Governing Commission and in the hospital administration to get the bulk of the cuts to come down in the County Hospital. Oak Forest Hospital, whose population is mostly suburban, mostly White, and made up of a large number of relatives of politicians, is evidently going to hardly feel



The Cook County Health and Hospitals Governing Commission (Director James Haughton, middle, right), was set up because of community complaints about politics interfering with running the hospital.

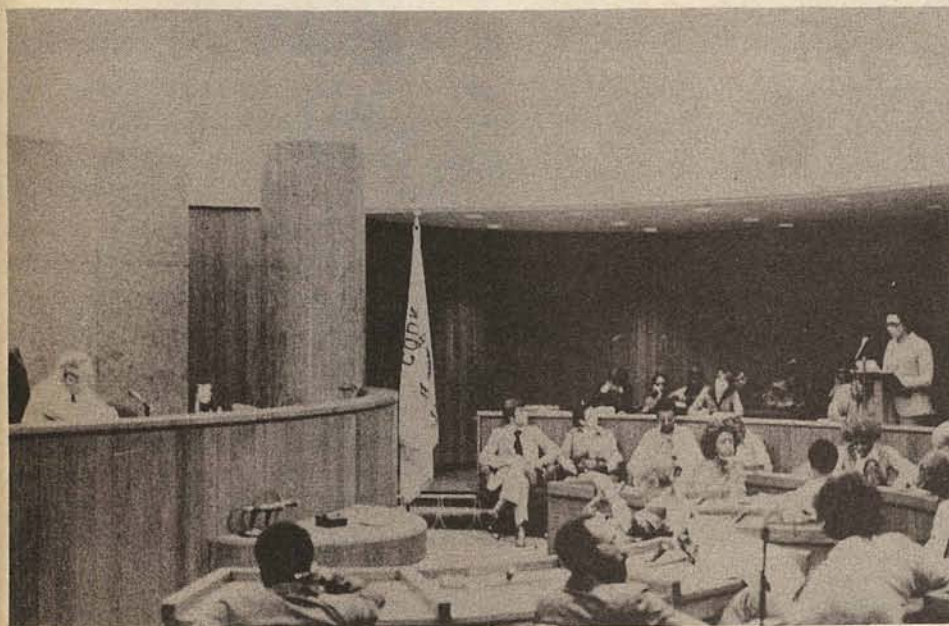
the cuts at all. In fact, even in the first round of cuts, the County Hospital took 90% of the reductions, and it seems that the same thing will happen this time around.

It appears that the main bout

is fixed. The traditional behind-the-scenes matchmakers in Chicago, the banks and real estate magnates, want Cook County Hospital closed. The private hospitals are looking to pick off those patients who use Cook County Hospital who can pay. The rest of the patients will go begging in the streets. As of round three, there seems to be no one in the machine who agrees with the majority of people in the city of Chicago that public health care needs to be expanded, not cut back.

### More Problems At The Top: Carter

At the national level, debate has been going on for years about some form of national health insurance to make health care available to everyone. Most of the plans discussed in Washington are set out with the insurance companies in mind,



The Cook County Board and Chairman George Dunne (left) control the budget for Cook County Hospital. Recently the County Board made a \$7 million cut in that budget.



1. Congressman Ron Dellums has the only plan for a National Health Service that guarantees health care will be made available to those who need it most.

and while they guarantee payment by insurance companies, where the taxpayer picks up the bill for the insurance, they do not guarantee that health care will be made available to those who need it the most or will be aimed at their particular problems.

The one exception is Congressman Dellums' plan for a National Health Service that would create a system of clinics with staff doctors in the communities that most need health care and a system of public hospitals serving each group of a number of these clinics. The services at the clinic would be determined by a survey of the needs of the community, much the way the services at the new Uptown People's Health Center were determined.

Carter and the majority of the Congress is not only not considering the Dellums proposed National Health Service seriously, they have even come up with a plan to limit any form of national health insurance.

According to the new Carter plan, the President would have the power to implement national health insurance "step by step." First, a small group of people would get health insurance. Then, when the President felt the economy could stand it, another group would get it. So even national health insurance would be delayed indefinitely.

### A Model From The Grassroots

The Uptown People's Health Center, according to spokesperson Helen Shiller, is a "model from the grassroots." Having fought the city, county and federal governments to get into existence, it will now represent the kind of clinic proposed in the Dellums national Health Service plan. It is rationally planned to meet the needs of the community it will serve. It is linked with a community structure of health

education that will make preventative health care a real possibility, for the first time.

Ms. Shiller is quick to point out, however, that the clinic cannot exist alone. The destruction of Cook County Hospital and the rest of the system of public health care in this county will severely limit the effectiveness of the neighborhood clinic. "We have won the first battle, the battle in our neighborhood. Now we must join with other communities to save Cook County Hospital. And finally we must join with poor and working people all over this country to fight for the Dellums plan for a National Health Service in this country. It will be a long and hard fight, but it has already been a long and hard fight just to get our clinic. We are ready, and there are more of us than there are of them." □



Demonstration held by the Committee to Save Cook County Hospital. Helen Shiller has pointed out that "We... have won the battle in our neighborhood. Now we must join with other communities to save Cook County Hospital... and join with people all over this country to fight for the Dellums plan for a National Health Service in this country."

# MARQUETTE PARK

With a few chapters from Goebbels under their belts, a small band of American Nazis conducted a two year public relations campaign that ended in Marquette Park on Chicago's southwest side on Sunday afternoon, July 9.

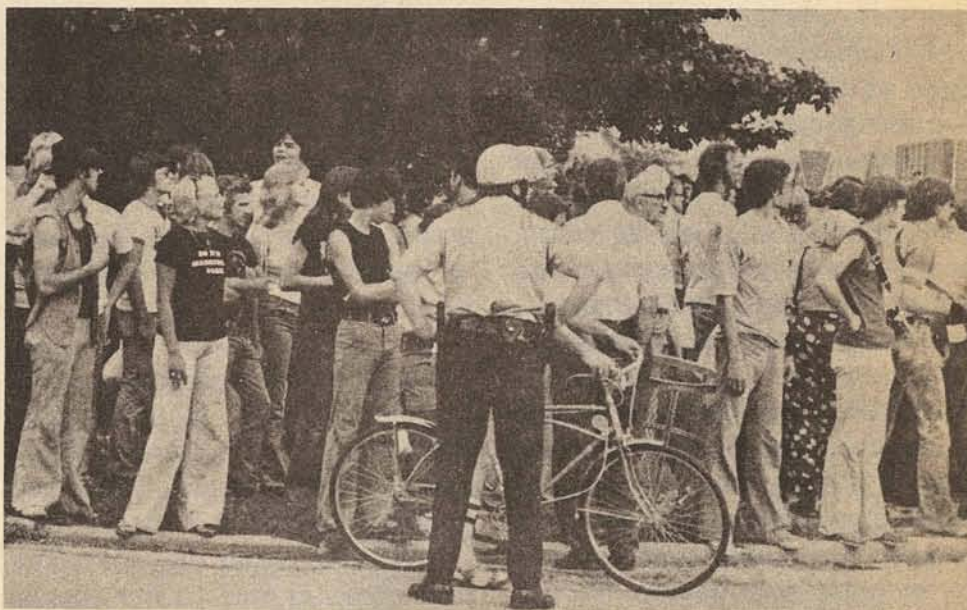
A copy of *Mein Kampf* in one hand and the *Sun-Times* in the other, little Frank Collin ranted and raved and stomped around and sold wolf tickets to whoever would bite until everybody was looking at him and his little group. Over a year ago Collin announced that he wanted to march into the middle of 80,000 hostile Jewish people. This announcement caused far more controversy, headlines, newscasts, arguments and counter arguments than this little group of 12-15 ever dreamed they could create. Finally, Collin decided it would be a lot better to stay closer to the office, in case he had to run. No one ever said that the Nazis were particularly brave or great fighters. So, instead of marching in Skokie they decided to drive to a 45 minute rally in a park a few blocks from their office.

The Nazis announced their intention to march in Marquette Park in mid-June and then things started to get confusing.

A lot of people said they were going to Marquette Park to stop the Nazis. A lot of people from around Marquette Park and the southwest part of the city said, "We don't like the Nazis, but we don't want a lot of trouble down here either." Even Mayor Bilandic called a press conference to explain that he didn't like the Nazis, but the court ordered him to let them have their rally. He forgot to say that the Nazis are a powder puff outfit and that the real problem in Marquette Park on Sunday would be the race hate that they would certainly stir up. Bilandic, not wanting to bite the hand that feeds him, knows too well that you can't

stay in office promising to keep the neighborhoods white, the most common device of machine precinct captains, and call people racists when they demand that you keep your promise.

Collin and his gang came for 45 minutes on Sunday, screamed a little rhetoric about white power and left. When they left a few thousand White people stuck around. It was almost like a mob looking for a cause. For the most part these were working people who think they can keep their neighborhood and the park, in the middle of the neighborhood, white. Blinded by racism they have forgotten that they are



When the Nazis left Marquette Park, a few thousand White people stuck around. It was almost like a mob looking for a cause.



A Black man walking through Marquette Park was dragged through the park and beaten as men screamed, "Ain't no niggers coming into this park or moving into this neighborhood!"

people at all and quickly become a giant roving Klan Klavern.

Several blocks to the east in the Black community which starts east of Western Avenue, a crowd of anti-Nazi demonstrators is breaking up, as the folks back in the park start to get a little rowdy.

The Nazis have long since gone as the people in the park begin to jump on "Jews" (Jewish Defense Leaguers who had wandered into the middle of the park and the edge of the rally), beat them up and toss them into the park's pond, as the rest of the crowd roars its approval.

At about 3:30 a Black man is noticed walking through the park. Within seconds he is being dragged through the park and punched and kicked and spit at by as many people as can get a lick in. The crowd

deposits the Black man at the edge of the park.

The newspaper reporters and television mini-cams, so hot to assist Collin in his two year P.R. drive, are not around now. Nazis might make good reading and watching, but a White racist mob with police protection could cause big problems in a majority non-White city.

At last they have proven their point. Men stand around staring at the man and screaming, "Ain't no niggers coming into this park or moving into this neighborhood!"

Actually the neighborhood of Marquette Park is divided at Western Avenue between 67th Street to 79th Street. The Black people live east of Western, and the Whites live to the west. The park itself is four to five blocks west of Western Avenue, run-

ning from Marquette Street to 71st Street.

Standing in the middle of the crowd for a while, it is not difficult to figure out what is really causing these people to behave in such a strange and violent way.

There is constant discussion of what it would mean if Black people were allowed to move into the neighborhood. "You can see what they do to their own communities," a fifty-year-old woman explains to the man standing next to her. "That's right," he answers back, "These niggers are not decent people." A younger man standing behind them jumps into the discussion. "If we don't fight for our rights, no one will. They're going to run right over us. They got everything they have from pushing. They even got an organization called push, Operation PUSH. We need some organization over here. Call it Operation Nazi."

Young boys run through the crowd, wearing white power tee shirts, screaming white power and throwing their fists in the air. People who wouldn't talk to each other on Saturday, stood shoulder to shoulder on Sunday. White power has unified a group of people, temporarily, like no church or community leaders ever could.

But it doesn't take a college degree to recognize that beneath all the unity and fighting lies a deep fear. There is fear that they will lose control of their homes, their streets, their park, their community and eventually will either have to be satisfied being a minority in their own neighborhood or packing up and leaving



Much of the blame for the fear and hysteria that erupted in the park rests on the corrupt leaders, machine aldermen, legislators and committeemen who stay in office by promising to keep the area White.

altogether. They see Black people as the agent of their destruction. What else but fear could make people act so crazy?

It is obvious that they have forgotten, or never knew, that the city planners can and will turn their community on its head with a few signatures. Or that bankers, developers and real estate people would turn all of Marquette Park into a giant Jewel store, if they believed they could realize two or three points.

Just as obvious is the fact that most of these people, in their

burst of fear and outrage, have forgotten that Black people or Latino people have exactly the same goals and wants as they themselves do.

Longtime community residents say much of the blame for the fear and hysteria that erupted in the park that day must rest on the corrupt leaders, machine alderman, legislators and committeemen who manage to stay in office term after term by promising to keep the area white. They explain that the concept of community pride has been twisted and distorted by

these phoney leaders who only want to turn the people into shock troops to contain the Black community. They point to the irony that these same elected leaders work hand in hand with the planners and developers to turn property into money and stable neighborhoods into battle zones. Finally, they agree that the fear is real, and the racial hatred is the sum of fear and ignorance, and the fighting will not stop until the people turn away from the opportunist politicians and begin to try to work with the Black community across the street. □

# CAROL MOSELEY BRAUN... ON THE ISSUES

*In the March 1978 primary elections, voters from the state's 24th legislative district elected Carol Moseley Braun to represent them in the November general election, and afterwards in the state legislature.*

*A graduate of the University of Chicago Law School, Ms. Braun served in the Civil Division of the U.S. Attorney's office from 1973 to 1977. Before that she worked as a legislative assistant. During her career, she has taken special interest in health, planning, water and air pollution, unfair immigration policies, improvement of HUD regulations, medicare, medicaid and social security laws.*

*In early July, KEEP STRONG interviewed Ms. Braun at her home on the city's southside.*

**KEEP STRONG:** Could you talk about the district and some of the issues that were raised in the campaign?

**CAROL MOSELEY BRAUN:** Okay, the 24th district is a large and diverse district. It includes

Hyde Park, South Shore, South Chicago and Woodlawn and contains a lot of different and diverse communities — Black communities, White communities, Latin communities, rich ones, poor ones. Some areas here

are heavily populated, others aren't, some are very intensely political, others are not. So one of the problems in my campaign was how does one go about bringing the message, if you will, to all of those people. Or do



Carol Moseley Braun, state legislative candidate from the 24th district.

you just focus your attention on the most intensely political, most powerful parts of the district? My intention from the beginning was to try to form a coalition.

I wanted to have a coalition formed around my candidacy that included White people and Black people and Latin people and rich people and professors and steel workers and the like, and I was gratified to find out that is what actually happened. It was something new and different. This was, I think, probably one of the first times on the southside that the kind of a grouping had come together behind a single candidate. And the message was clear — that we have a lot of common problems and that we ought not to get involved in the kinds of things that separate us, to our detriment, but rather, concentrate on those things that can unify us toward common goals. And that was the kind of theme around which the coalition formed, and that was the theme that carried us through the election.

KS: What were some of those common goals?

CMB: Control of the bureaucracy, which I am very concerned about. And we wanted "a legislator who responded more to what the people wanted and what the people needed than what the bosses downtown had to say about anything." That was the lovely thing about Bob Mann's tenure in the legislature, that he could function based on what he saw to be his constituents' interests, and he wasn't controlled by the machine, and that was another important goal.

Particularly in light of the fact

that the district has changed, the times have changed. I saw it as important to have an individual to represent the district who could claim that he or she was a grassroots candidate and that the mandate had come directly from the people, not just an army of patronage workers. We were talking about things like voter reform, for example, with the expressed concern that so many of the people in our district are disenfranchised on a political level because the voting laws are so convoluted that you really have to be supermotivated to get involved in the political process.

So that was another thing about the campaign. We were saying we want first to get people who have not been involved in politics, involved, because it's in your own best interests. You're doing this because you want your housing to be better, you want your schools to be better, you want the city and the state to start paying attention to the economic needs of your community, and you are interested in jobs.

So people got involved in the campaign who had not been political before, who saw that somehow as being the province of folks other than themselves, because they could not see their own interests in it. You need to demonstrate to people that, "Hey, it's in your interest and in the interests of your friends and neighbors and people that you care, that you get involved politically." And that's in fact what happened. We had an army of new people, literally, of new people involved in politics.

KS: How do you see controlling

the bureaucracy?

CMB: My feeling about legislative change really does come out of the experience I had with government. I was so powerful, if you will use the term, in the situation I was functioning in, I got to see firsthand how the agencies make decisions all the time and how a lot of times those decisions may not have anything to do with what the law really says.

And people get hurt. The free breakfast program was a disaster. Congress had legislated a free breakfast program for the Chicago public schools. This legislation started off with the glowing terms, "Congress finds it in the national interest that children should not be hungry when they come to school," because hungry children cannot learn. Therefore we will appropriate these many millions of dollars for free breakfast. Wonderful, right? Well, the problem was that when it got implemented in the Chicago public schools it was the rich schools that got the free breakfasts and the poor schools that didn't. And nobody could give you a rational explanation of why that was so.

And it went right down the line like that. It turned out that some bureaucrat along the way had decided to leave it up to the individual principal to make the decision. So the individual principals in the schools that had discipline problems and brick through the window problems said, the heck with it. Who wants it? So children wound up losing something that Congress had appropriated our tax dollars to provide for them. And that's the same situation with the HUD

houses, the housing cases that I handle. HUD would decide on a bunch of rules or regulations that had in no way anything to do with perpetuating the principle law that, "It is in the interests of the United States

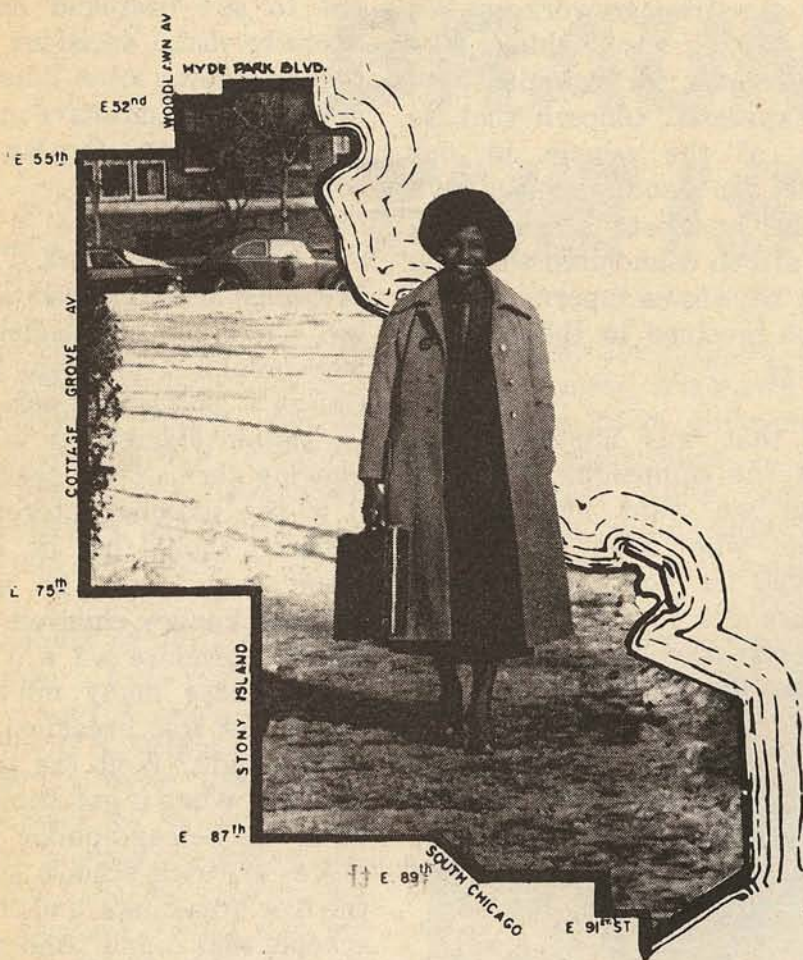
They don't have occasion to go in and watch legislation being passed in Springfield, they may never see the inside of a city council, but what they actually experience — the cop on the beat, the bureaucrat in the

that they are not just doing a job like when you work at General Motors.

KS: What kind of things are you working on now to demonstrate your beliefs to the voters?

CMB: We have, for example, already worked something out with the Department of the Aging. The problems of the aging, as you can imagine, are tremendous. The state presently funds programs for the elderly at what comes out to be about 25 cents per senior. Other states are funding these programs at about a dollar. Our elderly budget is lower than any other large industrial state. Our Department of the Aging has good programs but there's no money, and there's no incentive, and there's no action behind it, so getting things for the elderly is really like pulling hen's teeth, almost, to get the kind of services, for example, home health care and food service and the like, that they need.

And I was fortunate enough to run into a man who is a director of an agency office of the Department of the Aging. It doesn't deal specifically with this area, but it's all right, because when I've had an elderly problem, and I've had several, the caseworker hasn't been around for three months. They were supposed to be getting meals on wheels, and didn't four days in a row — that sort of a thing; I get on the phone to this person and say, we've got a problem with Mrs. Jones, at this center, and they are at this address and this is the problem. Would you look into it, and see what you can do about it, and he has. So far, we've done that, and he's been



The 24th District is a large and diverse district that includes Hyde Park, South Shore, South Chicago and Woodlawn. It contains "Black communities, White communities, Latin communities, rich ones, poor ones."

that every American have a decent place to live." That's actually the preamble of the 1934 housing act.

It's my firm belief that it's in the bureaucracies that the laws are executed on a day to day basis and that it's the bureaucracies that represent government to most people. That's how most people deal with government.

public aid office, the unemployment office — that's the level on which government becomes a reality to most people. It's my firm belief that one of the challenges of this new era will be beginning to formulate the procedures and policies whereby the bureaucracy will be made accountable for what it does, to remind the bureaucrats that they are, in fact, public servants,

able to resolve the problems that we've run into.

So maybe I've just been extraordinarily fortunate in dealing with the Department of the Aging and those specific problems, but I would hope that sort of thing would carry through, and I've already made some contacts at public aid, for example, and just last month resolved a real serious problem. A woman had been denied welfare since January, because she had this caseworker who decided that her ex-husband should be supporting his kids.

Meanwhile, this woman was out there with nothing. I made a visit to the public aid office, talked to some people. As it turned out, we also had a contact there, and it was worked out. She had already filed an appeal but it was dismissed because they paid her the back money that she was entitled to since December and will be continuing her benefit payments.

That was just one situation. I hope more of these things start to happen, and we get into problem-solving on a regular basis. Word of mouth is really the effective thing, and the word spread like that. This woman sent me a second case after I handled it for her. So, I'm hoping that it works out. I don't know to what extent, if any, that it's been tried like that, in this specific way, and I'm not going to say that I'm sure that that's the answer to dealing with bureaucratic problems on a day-to-day basis.

KS: Maybe you could talk a little bit about how you view the



"It's my firm belief that one of the challenges of this new era will be beginning to formulate the procedures and policies whereby the bureaucracy will be made accountable for what it does."

independent movement.

CMB: I think the independent movement has a real challenge facing it in that Mayor Daley is no longer with us, and I think the opportunity now for an alternative to the entrenched centers of power, as we have known them in this city, is possible. But as I see it, the independent movement is going to have to become more broad-based, more grass-roots, more interested in reaching out to people who have been disenfranchised and say, "There is a home for you, it's not just politics as usual, you can have a voice." In my literature we say your vote is your voice. You can have a voice, you can have some role in your own determination, in determining those kinds of things, those political things,

that affect your day-to-day living. And I think if the independent movement is serious about reaching people in that way and communicating that message, then it would be able to develop the kind of power base that I think would be necessary for us to really effect some changes locally and statewide that we would be interested in doing.

So, that's my answer. It's a challenge, it really is, and I think that we're going to have to move from the notion of independents being a people who are just concerned with theoretical concepts of what good government is about, although that's obviously very important, and concern ourselves with day-to-day survival issues as well. □

# National Perspective

## FBI Agent In KKK Murdered Black Man

### Charges Against Huey P. Newton Dropped

(Santa Cruz, Calif.) In a move that surprised no one, district attorney Ralph Boroff decided to drop the two charges pending against Black Panther Party President Huey P. Newton.

The charges grew out of an incident in a Santa Cruz night spot in mid-May when two drunken racists provoked a fight with the respected Party leader and Party member Bob Heard.

On the basis of statements from the White men, Huey and Bob were charged with assault, and assault with intent to commit murder. They were arrested immediately after the incident.

Newton's bail was set at \$50,000 and newspapers coast to coast, especially the *Oakland Tribune* and *San Francisco Chronicle* and *Examiner* headlined the incident in an attempt to discredit Huey and the Party.

The speed with which this minor incident became national news caused many observers to speculate that the FBI's COINTELPRO operation is alive and strong.

D.A. Boroff's withdrawal of charges was expected after a preliminary hearing on July 6 in which the state's principle witness, Kenny Hall, admitted



Huey P. Newton, Founder and President of the Black Panther Party.

under oath that he had been drinking heavily for three hours before starting a fight with Newton.

Noting that most of the charges were also dropped against Heard, Party spokespersons point out that the dismissal of charges has not received the same nationwide press coverage the original arrests did. They believe this is evidence of a continuing conspiracy to disrupt and destroy the effective programs of the Black Panther Party. □

(Atlanta, Ga.) The FBI's chief paid informant in the Ku Klux Klan in the early 1960's has told Alabama authorities that, while on the bureau payroll, he shot a Black man to death, then kept quiet about the killing at the instruction of an FBI agent, according to investigative documents.

The account given to the Alabama authorities by informant Gary Thomas Rowe, Jr., has been denied by the agent Rowe named, Byron McFall. A spokesman for the Bureau claimed files contain no record of such a shooting, which Rowe told investigators occurred during racial rioting in Birmingham in 1963.

Rowe, in turn, has accused the FBI of having purged its files about his undercover work in Klan "action squads" in an effort to protect its own reputation, according to investigative records compiled by the Alabama attorney general's office and the Birmingham Police Department that were obtained by the *New York Times*.

Rowe, a former night club bouncer, gained national attention in 1975, when, wearing a hood to protect the new identity he had assumed with the FBI's help, he told a U.S. Senate committee that the FBI had encouraged him to participate in acts of violence to gather evidence against the Klan.

Rowe had been in hiding since he testified in 1965, with FBI protection, that he had been with the three Klansmen who killed Viola Liuzzo, a White Detroit housewife who came to Alabama for the civil rights march from Selma to Montgomery in 1965.

Rowe's account of the shooting of the Black man in 1963 is contained in a memo to a state prosecutor from the investigator who questioned him.

Rowe was quoted as saying that while driving through a Black section of Birmingham during one of the nights of rioting that followed turbulent demonstrations that year, he encountered a Black man who was beating a woman and was forced to shoot the man to protect himself.

Rowe stated that he reported the shooting to a Birmingham police sergeant who was manning a barricade in the riot zone and later made a telephone call to McFall, an FBI agent to whom he frequently reported.

According to the memo, Rowe said the FBI agent checked with the police and called back to say: "You're right. You killed him. Did the sergeant with the BPD recognize you?"

Rowe is said to have stated that the police sergeant did not know him. McFall is then quoted in the memo as saying to Rowe: "Just sit tight and don't say anything about it."

Rowe told Alabama investigators of the previously unreported killing while they were questioning him last year about



Ku Klux Klan rally. The FBI's chief paid informant in the 1980's said he kept quiet about a murder, on FBI instructions.

the 1963 bombing that killed four Black children at the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham.

The investigative documents show that Rowe has twice failed polygraph tests in which he denied direct involvement in that and two other bombings.

As a result of those tests, according to sources close to the renewed investigation into racial violence in Alabama in the 1960's, Rowe is now suspected of having acted as an agent-provocateur, participating in and helping to plan the violent activity that the FBI had hired him to monitor.

Rowe is also quoted in investigative files as having made incriminating statements in the presence of two Birmingham policemen about his role in the killing of Mrs. Liuzzo. □

*Reprinted from  
The Black Panther*

## Backlash From Coast To Coast

Many people will remember this summer as the summer of minor revolts. Starting in California, and reaching across the country in influence, a campaign to find non-Whites and poor Whites as the cause of unemployment and rising taxes and put them "in the box" has declared itself and scored major victories in the last 45 days. The campaign has taken on the character of resistance to a government which taxes property owners unfairly and discriminates against Whites. Organizers of the move have used the courts and the ballot box to build their strength.

### THE BALLOT BOX

"Send a message to the politicians" is what they thought as they packed the polls in California on June 6 and voted two to one in favor of Proposition 13. Angered by rising property taxes alongside a \$5.8 billion surplus in the state treasury, voters in every California county voted overwhelmingly to reduce property taxes to 1 per cent and roll back the valuations (official dollar value of property) to the 1977 level. The message was clear and jolting. The passage of Proposition 13 cut \$7 billion of local tax money out of budgets and had politicians and city officials from San Diego to Mendocino sweating and scrambling in every direction.

In the months before the June



Many public employees, like these teachers in Los Angeles, believe that passage of Proposition 13 will force layoffs and cutbacks across California.

6 election, a huge statewide debate had grown, and the issue of property tax relief had become the focus of attention in almost every political race in the primary election. Politicians who campaigned against Proposition 13 forecast doom — massive layoffs of public employees, school closings and curtailment of services — if the measure were to pass. Supporters of the constitutional amendment said the other side was bluffing, and furthermore, they didn't care — at last the buck was going to stop somewhere. Known as the Jarvis-Gann initiative, after its co-authors, the measure cutting property taxes by 57% did in fact throw a huge wrench into the financing of every city, county and school district in the state. For over a year Howard Jarvis, a retired real estate man from Los Angeles, campaigned for his referendum across California. Playing on the contradic-

tion between increasing property taxes and a multi-billion dollar tax surplus, the campaign gained broad support among millions of small homeowners throughout California. Proposition 13 became theirs, they thought. Support snowballed, and by June 5 it was clear to everybody that the vote the next day would be decisive in favor of the tax cut.

Before the final returns were in, the 4.2 million Californians who voted for 13 began to rejoice and celebrate what they believed was their greatest victory. And in the days immediately following the election, panic gripped the cities. Police, afraid their pensions would be reduced, applied for early retirement in droves. San Francisco's city charter was suspended on an emergency basis, fire departments in smaller municipalities were reduced by as much as 85 to 90 percent, and summer

schools were closed throughout the state.

But this is only half the story. It seems there is another side of Proposition 13, a side that makes a rational person think that the victory of the "little man" might not be his victory at all.

The small homeowners who backed the tax cut will save a few hundred dollars each, but the politicians who were supposed to "get the message" are still going to the bank, and some people are doing even better. A recent article in the *Wall Street Journal* listed the savings that California's business giants would enjoy as a result of the tax initiative's success: Crocker National Bank — \$2.3 million; Bank of America Corp. — \$13 million; Standard Oil of California — \$20 million; Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. — gross \$130 million, net \$60 million; Pacific Gas and Electric — \$98 million. The Embarcadero Center, office and commercial complex in San Francisco, which is owned jointly by David Rockefeller and Associates and the Prudential Insurance Company of America will save an estimated \$3.6 million in taxes that don't have to be paid any more.

In fact, each day brings new evidence that the so-called "tax revolt" was no revolt at all but a well-orchestrated move by Southern California landowners and west coast business interests to limit the government's taxing and spending power while they increase their own influence.

Finally, the money taken out of local budgets will cut back the programs and services that

benefit those who own no land. The campesinos who pick the food and need a little help when the crops are thin, the San Diego ghetto child who want remedial reading in the summer, the Asian garbage man in San Francisco, a year and a half on the job and still close to the bottom of the seniority list.

It is not news that minorities and poor Whites are concentrated in and around the major cities in California. Nor is it news that mayors and city councils view these people as among their most serious problem and will jump at any chance to force them out of the central cities, lock, stock and barrel. Many observers feel that the worse is yet to come. The hit list — county hospitals and emergency rooms, day care centers and job training programs — will grow, and a less peaceful revolt could be around the corner.

## THE COURTS

Less than a month after the California vote, the United States Supreme Court finally gave its ruling on the Bakke case. The court ordered the University of California-Davis to admit Allen Bakke to its medical school while upholding that race could still be considered an important factor in college admissions.

Allen Bakke, a 43-year-old White man with a PhD in engineering, applied to the University of California-Davis Medical School and 12 others, because he believed that he could double his \$40,000 yearly salary by specializing in medical engineering. He was denied entrance at each of the schools and U.C.-Davis two

years in a row. Upon interviewing him, an admissions officer at another school stated that he would not admit Bakke regardless of how high his grades and test scores were. He characterized Bakke as being very narrow, very selfish and concerned mainly with his own income. After Bakke was turned down for a second time at Davis, a dean of admissions informed him that he had missed out because

volt. This revolt calls its enemy "reverse discrimination," saying that programs that favor non-White people and women in admissions, hiring and promotion discriminate against non-Whites. As a result of the initial furor around the Bakke case, today, there are suits pending in every major city across the country by Whites seeking to put an end to affirmative action programs. These are programs established



Affirmative action programs established through the Black-led civil rights movement of the '50's, '60's and '70's, were intended to ensure that everybody got an equal opportunity to cut a slice of the pie.

16 of the 100 entrance slots were being held out for non-Whites only. He told Bakke that the people being admitted into these slots were less qualified than himself. He then advised Bakke to file a suit challenging the constitutionality of the special admissions program.

In the last few years, the Bakke case had become the pivot point in another misguided re-

through the Black-led civil rights movement of the 50's, 60's and 70's, that were intended to ensure that everybody in the country got an equal opportunity to cut a slice of the pie.

While the June 19 Supreme Court decision ended a year long court battle to decide the fate of Allen Bakke, the reactions, protests and legal cases seeking to end minority preference for

contractors, public employees, and college and graduate school admissions programs, to name a few, are most definitely on the upswing. Many eyes are now turned to the \$4 billion federal public works program and its clause that 10% of the money must go to minority contractors. There are presently a series of court cases challenging the clause, and the plaintiffs, large white construction interests, are now very hopeful.

In general, affirmative action programs, intended to correct and compensate for 200 years of racial discrimination, had not gone very far towards accomplishing their goals. Poor and working communities continue to be without doctors. The number of non-White professionals and elected officials is a slight fraction of their proportion to the rest of the population, and unemployment among Black and Latino men and women, ages 18-30 has risen to 40-60 percent in many urban areas.

Affirmative action programs were never a gift but a series of concessions that were forced through years of fighting and hard organizing, demonstrating, voting and violent rebellion.

Many who have raised the cry of "reverse discrimination" have forgotten that these gains have benefited large groups of poor Whites — through summer youth employment, housing subsidies for seniors and large families, job training and expanded community services — much as anybody else. Across the country community leaders and community organizers are expressing concern that the movement to end affirmative

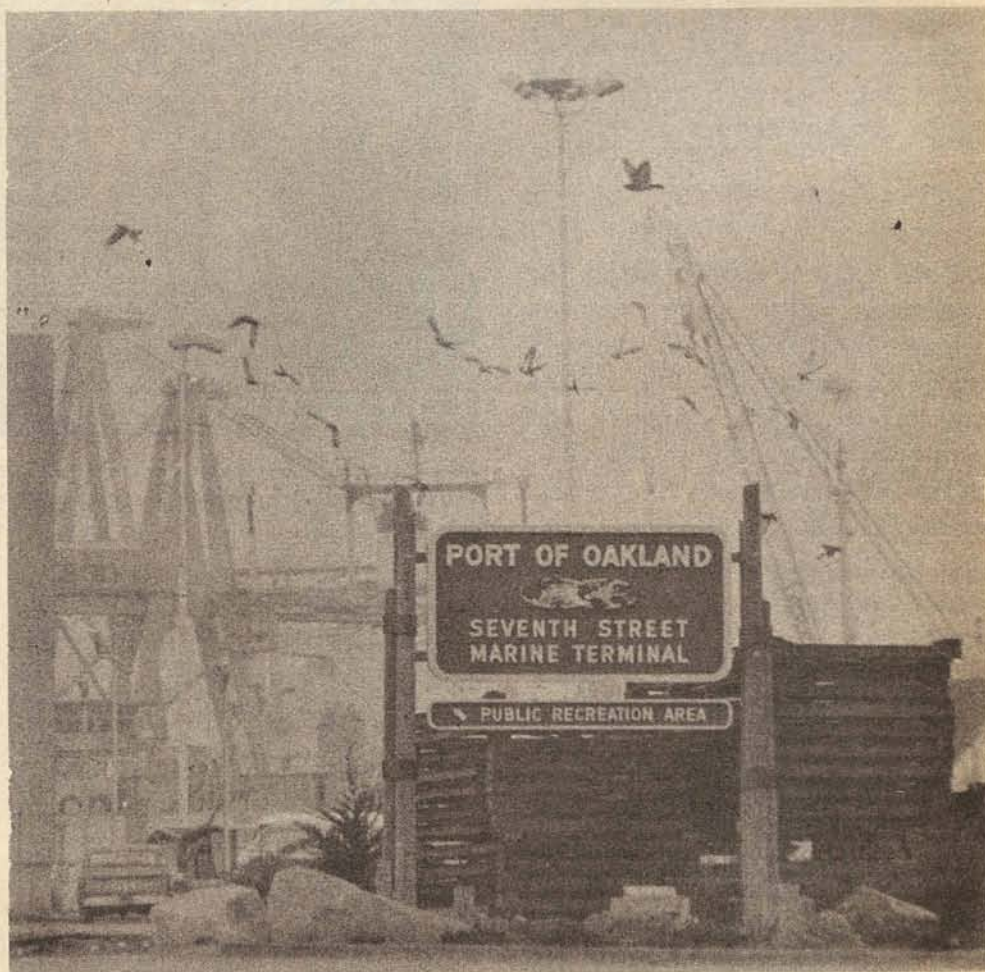
action will only get fuel from the Bakke decision. □

## Community Protest Stalls "Kaiser Plan"

*The following article, reprinted from the June 3 issue of the Black Panther Intercommunal News Service, describes a broad-based community effort by Oakland citizens and organizations to stop the "Kaiser Plan." This plan is intended to completely remove control of the city's economic development from the people.*

*The similarity between this plan and the Overall Economic Development Plan in Chicago is remarkable. Sources in California report that Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corporation and the city of Oakland continue to maneuver around community objections. In Chicago, while community groups have been challenging its legality in federal court, the Economic Development Commission has subtly transformed its plan into a series of other programs.*

(Oakland, Calif.) Widespread community protest has temporarily postponed action on the notorious "Kaiser Plan," a scheme whereby big business in this port city would usurp



The Port of Oakland. If the Kaiser Plan were realized, big business would take control of the city's economic development efforts.

traditional government powers and take control of Oakland's economic development efforts.

Recent attempts by THE BLACK PANTHER to obtain information on the current status of the Kaiser Plan proved unsuccessful. Inquiries were made to the office of Mayor Lionel Wilson and to City Councilpersons Mary Moore and Carter Gilmore. An aide to the mayor claimed no knowledge of the plan. Mrs. Moore said she believes public outcry has killed the plan while Gilmore said he was unfamiliar with it.

The April issue of the progressive *East Bay Voice* gave the first public indication of the Kaiser scheme. (THE BLACK PANTHER subsequently reprinted the *Voice* article.) The *Voice* managed to obtain a copy of the "confidential" plan, a report submitted in February by executives of the Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corporation at the request of Mayor Wilson and the Oakland Council for Economic Development (OCED).

The Kaiser Plan proposed the immediate establishment of an "Economic Development Corporation," (D.C.), which will serve as the "central coordinating body for all of the city's economic development efforts" — which are expected to cost \$35 million every year.

The Development Corporation will be an updated version of the urban redevelopment agencies during the 1960's — but without the constraints of public accountability.

According to the Kaiser Plan, the D.C. will be able to "conduct

a wide range of activities which may not be appropriate for, or permitted by, cities."

These profit-generating activities include issuing industrial bonds (\$75 million by 1982) without voter approval, assembling land for large commercial and industrial projects, packaging "financial incentives" for businesses, acquiring city-owned land and other unspecified actions.

As a private corporation instead of a city agency, the D.C. will be able to avoid the legal "public use" constraints on public agencies, as well as to circumvent such problems as "high taxes, high wages and difficulty with unions," according to the document.

Insulated from public scrutiny, the Corporation will be able "to manage [its] business with a minimum of interference."

The Kaiser Plan is couched in the rhetoric of "cooperation of the public and private sectors." But the 36-member board of directors will be heavily business-dominated.

Aside from seats allotted to the mayor, one city council member, two labor representatives, and five representatives from specified community organizations (no Black groups are recommended) — the remainder of the 36 members will be business and professional leaders.

The executive board, which will actually run the Corporation, will be even more heavily stacked in favor of businessmen — 10 members out of 14.

The public sector will be used to subsidize the D.C.'s ventures. "Most importantly," states the plan, "the Corporation must have access to federal and state funds." It will be a "conduit for the transmission of federal monies into Oakland."

Local subsidies will be required also — "city staff members... should be made available to assist the Corporation."

The entire plan hinges on its wholesale giveaway of the public treasury to private capital.

Despite the *Voice's* expose on the plan in early April, the Bay Area establishment press chose to ignore it until a month later, and only a few community organizations, such as the Oakland Citizens Committee for Urban Renewal (OCCUR) and the West Oakland Community Development Council (WOCDC) protested loudly.

OCCUR's community development specialist Larry Joyner charged that the Kaiser Plan is an outright attempt by the business community to take over Oakland.

"They are trying to get by administrative fiat what they couldn't get through the electoral process," Joyner said. "It's a group of financial hoodlums who wouldn't have dared to come forward with this kind of a plan and present it to (former) Mayor John Reading."

Startled by the strong opposition, supporters of the Kaiser Plan have apparently postponed further action on the corporate scheme, but the issue is surely not dead. □

# Intercommunal Perspective

## The New Cold War – U.S. Ticket To War In Africa

(Washington, D.C.) A battery of headlines in major U.S. newspapers attacking the Soviet Union, as well as increased White House discussion of nuclear weapons deployment and the balance of nuclear and conventional weaponry between the United States and the Soviet Union, are leading many veteran analysts and observers to call the late 1970's the era of the new Cold War.

The Carter-Brzezinski "get

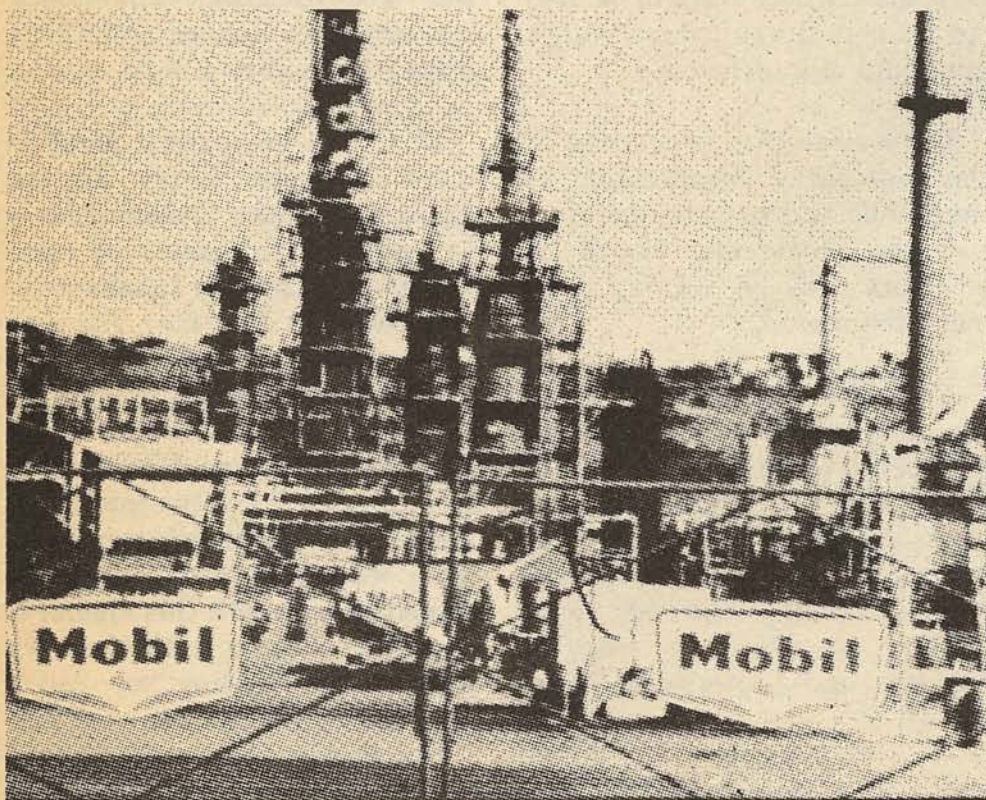
tough" policy which threatens the nuclear arms limitation treaty as well as a program of mutual troop reduction in Europe, needs to be seen in a broader framework to be understood. By now there is little doubt that the United States' new-found militance toward the Soviet Union is a result of the decline of U.S. influence in Africa.

Africa remains the only hope for the survival of the U.S. "free market system." The loss of such

great markets as China and Vietnam to the socialist camp has forced U.S. business to turn to Africa for markets and resources. This continent, nearly four times the size of the continental U.S.A., rich beyond imagination in natural resources and human labor, remains vulnerable to U.S. penetration. Africa is defenseless against modern warfare. It remains divided and suffers the ravages of natural calamity over a large portion of its land area.

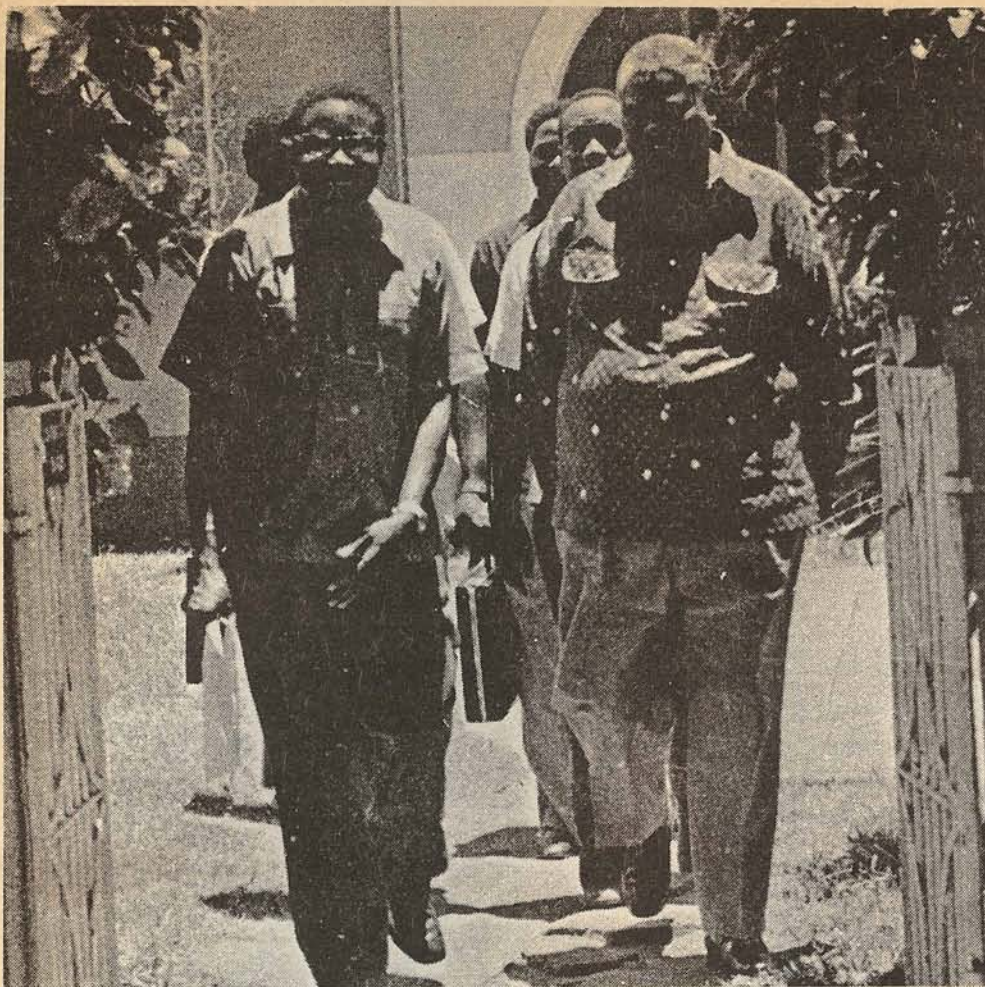
In 1960 the total investment by U.S. government and business interests in Africa totaled about \$600 million. By 1975 this figure had grown to nearly \$4.5 billion with \$2.6 billion invested in the White-ruled Southern Africa area. The rise of the liberation movements and the successful ouster of the Portuguese from Mozambique and Angola, the successes of the liberation movement in Zimbabwe and the decreasing stability of South Africa have all seriously threatened the return on this investment for U.S. business. Faced with problems and unable to overtly commit troops in Africa, because of the defeat at the hands of the Vietnamese in similar conditions, the U.S. government embarked on a policy of covert action and disruption in southern Africa, hoping to stem the liberation tide. This strategy has almost completely failed.

In Angola as far back as 1968, the U.S. through the Central Intelligence Agency provided large amounts of money, in addition to training and supplies to Holden Roberto's FNLA and Jonas Savimbi's UNITA. Both of these phony guerrilla movements were set up for the sole purpose of preventing the



*Mobil refinery in Durban, South Africa*

Mobil Oil Refinery in Durban, South Africa.



Robert Mugabe, President of ZANU (left), and Joshua Nkomo, President of ZAPU. The groups have merged into a common front to establish Black control of their country.

MPLA's rise to power. This policy failed miserably when the MPLA won on the battlefield and seized power in Angola, taking a clearly anti-U.S. stance. The U.S., meanwhile, is continuing its involvement with UNITA hoping to overthrow the MPLA government.

Faced with the rising strength of the liberation forces in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia), western powers with heavy investments in Rhodesia, and operating through the U.S. and Great Britain, have set up a so-called multi-racial transitional government. This government, intended to bring peace to Zimbabwe, failed to include the forces who are fighting for liberation. Instead, such discredited Black leaders as

Bishop Abel Muzorewa and Ndabaningi Sithole joined with Ian Smith, the White minority "prime minister," to make up this government.

The hope of the U.S. was that this new transitional government would gain world-wide recognition, resulting in the lifting of U.N.-imposed economic sanctions, the strengthening of the phony government and the corresponding collapse of the liberation forces. This plan was again defeated on the battlefield. The transitional government is crumbling while the liberation forces control over 80% of the countryside of Zimbabwe.

Finally, there is Zaire, a country very rich in minerals,

especially copper, with a government friendly to the United States. U.S.-supported interests have invested over a billion dollars, but Katangese rebels continue to present new problems for the United States. Most western experts agree that given the instability of the Zairean government and its relative unpopularity among the Zairean people, only western military intervention can insure its survival. While Carter has accused the Cubans of supplying the arms and training to Katangese rebels, Cuban Premier Fidel Castro repeatedly denied any involvement in Zaire.

These events and the repeated



Discredited Black leaders Abel Muzorewa and Ndabaningi Sithole (above) have joined with Ian Smith, the White minority "Prime Minister," to make up a so-called multi-racial transitional government.

failure of U.S. policy in Africa has led directly to the new Cold War. The hope is that if public opinion can be swayed to believe that the Russians and Cubans pose a real threat to U.S. interests, then overt military action in Africa can be justified. The new cold War is Carter's ticket to war in Africa. □

John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John are taking almost entirely White audiences back to the fifties when the first sign of young people looking for something different marked this country. Ten years later, the youth rebellion was to rock the basic values of this country, shake up the establishment, stop the Vietnam war, win gains in civil rights and terrify those who thought America would never change again.

But *Grease* is less than skin deep, a shimmering reflection of the fifties.

Those who grew up in the fifties will recognize their partners in high school. They will recognize John Travolta and the hard core brothers who stayed away from sports and classes and school parties and turned on to hot rods and wine and whatever. But they won't see their hearts or souls.

They won't see that the schools were telling us in the fifties not to think about so-called subversive ideas. They won't see young minds being told that "the Russians may drop the bomb any minute." They won't see that the young brothers and sisters who ran around acting crazy had just woken up to the lies and smokescreens the great American life was built on and wanted nothing to do with it and its letter sweaters and high school queens and most popular awards. They won't see that young Whites were being asked

# GREASE



to fight integration and civil rights and Black people, generally, at the same time they were feeling a new creativity and a strong beat of life in Black musicians like Chuck Berry, the Coasters and Bo Diddley.

*Grease* was defiance. Whatever was defiant was grease. It had no other direction, so whatever was insane, was kicks, defied the 9 to 5 the youth of the fifties were supposed to accept. *Grease* was saying, "Man, you got so many lies, so many cover-ups, so many contradictions in what you're saying that we don't go for nothing you say.

We're going to do our *own* thing.

"Nostalgia" means looking back at something and seeing only what you want to see. The movie makes the fifties seem like everybody was just some kids having a good time in high school before they joined up with whatever the rulers and the powers that be laid out for them. The men who control millions of dollars and can make movies may want the fifties to have been that. And they definitely seem to want the eighties to be like that.

But the fifties weren't. And the eighties won't be. □

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